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VOL. XXVIII.—No. 333. MELBOURNE: SEPT. 20th, 1913. [SUBSCRIPTION: 10/- PER ANNUM POST FREE

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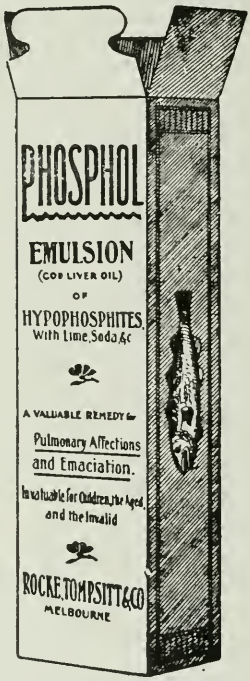

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THE AUSTRALASIAN

Journal of Pharmacy.

[REGISTERED UNDER COPYRIGHT ACT].

No. 333. SEPTEMBER 20TH, 1913. Vol. XXVIII.

British News.

London, August 14th, 1913.

MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS BILL.

Lord Lamington, formerly Governor of Queensland, on July 24th, introduced into the House of Lords a Bill to restrict the undue use of certain medical prescriptions. The Bill, which has been read a first time, has the unofficial sanction of the Pharmaceutical Society and the British Medical Association. As stated in the memorandum attached to the Bill, the object of the measure is to prevent medical prescriptions which contain scheduled poisons from being used as a means of obtaining an undue quantity of the medicine prescribed. At present it is not an uncommon practice for a patient who has received a prescription from his or her doctor to use the prescription again and again without further medical authority. It is obvious that this practice, in some cases at least, leads to abuses. If a doctor sees a patient and prescribes a certain quantity of a certain medicine, it by no means follows that the doctor intends the patient to use that medicine repeatedly or indiscriminately. The Bill proposes, therefore, that where a medicine prescribed by a doctor contains a scheduled poison the prescription is not to be dispensed more than once unless the doctor gives directions either specifying the number of times it may be dispensed and supplied to the patient or stating that it may be supplied to him or

ber as often or in such quantities as is desired.

The main provisions of the measure are:—

1. (a) A doctor prescribing a medicine containing a scheduled poison to sign the prescription with his full name and attach his postal address.

(b) Such prescription not to be dispensed more than once, or supplied in greater quantity than prescribed unless directed by the medical practitioner ordering it.

(c) The chemist in case of a prescription ordered to be dispensed more than once to mark on the face of the prescription his name and business address, and the date when dispensed, and when it appears from the dates, &c., on the prescription that it has been dispensed the full number of times ordered, it shall be the duty of the chemist to retain the prescription and to refuse to dispense it; it shall similarly be unlawful for a chemist to dispense a second time a medicine ordered for once only.

(d) A prescription not complying with 1 (a) must not be dispensed, but it should be forwarded to the medical practitioner by whom prescribed.

2 (a) Chemists committing breaches of the Act liable to a fine not exceeding £10 for a first offence, and not exceeding £50 for a subsequent offence.

(b) Persons making false statements or producing false prescriptions for compounding liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months.

It is estimated that about 30 or 40 per cent. of medicines prescribed contain a scheduled poison. The Bill is based on the recommendation of the International Opium Convention, but appears to go further than the reasonable restrictions proposed by that body on the distribution of habit forming drugs.

NATIONAL INSURANCE AND MALINGERING.

The problem of malingering, says the "Pharmaceutical Journal," has been raised in a most acute form as a result of the working of the Insurance Act. A letter recently issued by the President of the National Conference of Friendly Societies, points out that the claims on Friendly Societies for sick benefits made during February, March, April, and May, 1913, were 10, 20, 50 and 70 per cent. in advance of those made in the corresponding months of 1912. This increase—and increasing increase — cannot possibly represent a corresponding increase of disease. No doubt, a considerable portion of it is explained by the fact that a number of persons, who were not formerly members of Friendly Societies, have become such under the Act. But a large amount still remains unaccounted for, and this can only be due to malingering. All sorts of proposals have been made to secure a more efficient scrutiny of claims, but so far they appear to have come to nothing. Malingering is certainly part of humanity's original sin, and probably the only reason why the number of malingerers is not much greater is that most men have nothing to gain by so doing. For the ordinary man earning his living, sickness so far from being any advantage brings a direct and immediate loss of income, and at the same moment increased expenses to provide medical attention, etc. Accordingly the ordinary man shuns sickness. But among schoolboys, soldiers and others, for whom illness means a period of idleness without any economic disadvantages, a sharp lookout for malingerers has to be kept. Among the subscribers to Friendly Societies and other voluntary insurance schemes, there is an economic temptation to individual malingering, but it is checked by the economic interest of the members not to exhaust their society's funds. When, however, those funds are supplied and replenished by taxation, there is no such check, and malingering inevitably increases. The passing of the Employers' Liability Act was followed by an enormous crop of fraudulent illnesses, as every medical man in industrial districts is aware; and the Insurance Act is now having the same effect, only more so. It must also be remembered that, no matter how great their desire for rectitude, Friendly Society officials are likely to be more generous with National Insurance claimants than they were with their private members. Human nature being what it is, public funds are always administered more extravagantly than private ones, and Insurance merely provides the latest illustration of this world-old truism.

PERSONATION OF A CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

On July 15, before Judge Lumley Smith, at the Central Criminal Court, Edward Wm.

Roberts pleaded guilty to an indictment which charged him with causing to be made a false entry in the Register of Chemists and Druggists, further with unlawfully procuring himself to be put upon the Register, and knowingly, unlawfully, and wilfully making a false declaration in writing. He pleaded not guilty to forging a form of application.

It appeared that in 1891, the prisoner's brother, Frederick L. Roberts, passed an examination of the Pharmaceutical Society, became duly qualified, and was entered on the Register as a chemist and druggist. In July, 1891, the defendant also presented himself for examination, but failed; he had never passed the examination and had never been qualified. The Society regularly checked the Register, and in 1899, not being able to vouch the existence of Frederick L. Roberts, they sent two registered letters to his last known address. These came back unopened, and as a consequence the name was removed from the Register. In 1908 an inspector of the Society went to Woolwich, where he found the defendant acting in the shop with an assistant. The inspector bought poison from both these people. The defendant represented himself to be Frederick Lancelot Roberts. He said he had been the manager of the shop at Woolwich since 1892, and added that his not being on the Register was due to an oversight. He asked that if he took steps to become registered again the penalties might be allowed to pass. As a result he was given certain forms to fill up, one of which was a statutory declaration, which he swore before a commissioner, and in which he alleged that he was Frederick Lancelot Roberts. Believing that everything was in order, the Society restored the name of Frederick Lancelot Roberts to the Register, and from that time down to the present the prisoner had been dispensing drugs and selling poisons in the usual way. Furthermore, in the shop was hanging up Frederick Lancelot Roberts's original certificate. The Society regarded this as a serious matter, because the Acts of Parliament which dealt with it were passed to secure that only qualified people should dispense poisons. But for five years the defendant had been practising as a chemist, to say nothing of his having filled up forged declarations to get his name on the Register. In addition, in January of this year he wrote to the Insurance Commissioners, and was placed on the panel as a chemist and druggist under the Insurance Act. Defendant's brother was a chemist who had passed all the examinations. Shortly after his brother passed the Preliminary Examination, the defendant thought he would follow in the same profession and began to study. He passed the Preliminary Examination, and was then apprenticed to a firm in Dudley, Worcester. Before he could serve the whole period of his indentures, that firm went bankrupt, and when he endeavoured to pass the final examination, he failed. He continued, as he was entitled, to be employed by different chemists in different parts of the country, and for years he had discharged his duties to the satisfaction of his employers. Defendant's brother had gone to India, where he had been for more than twenty years. Only once during that time had defendant seen him, and he did not know at the present time whether Frederick Lancelot Roberts were alive or dead. But before going away on the last occasion he left his certificate with the defendant for safe custody. It was under the stress of compulsion that defendant represented himself as his brother. He had had no occasion to do anything of the kind up to that moment, because there was a qualified chemist on the premises. There was no object in doing what he did because he might easily have done what he had done since—engaged a properly qualified chemist. It was in order to avoid the fine that the defendant was foolish enough to represent himself as his brother. The least inquiry would have discovered that he was not Frederick Lancelot Roberts.

Mr. Benjamin Herbert Harwood, registered chemist and druggist, was called. He said he had had an experience of from thirty to forty years, and had known the defendant about twenty years. During that time defendant was a thoroughly competent assistant, and witness had every confidence in him. No complaint or trouble of any kind had arisen in respect of his work, and such was the witness's opinion of him that he arranged to sell the business to him a few years ago.

Mr. George Henry Rowland, of the Royal Arsenal Laboratory, said he had known the defendant for seventeen years. In his opinion defendant was a thoroughly competent, well-trained professional man.

The Judge: I think this is a serious case myself, because it not only involves that the man has been for several years carrying on business in the face of the statute. He was selling drugs day by day, and respect for the public safety has made it necessary to pass an Act of Parliament to say that a man shall not do it. He is liable to a penalty every time he sells poisons, of which there is a long schedule, without having someone on the premises who is registered. It is extremely discreditable for a man to pass himself off as his brother, his brother having passed an examination, that he should practise in his name, and I feel very much disposed to send him for a moderate time of separation from his practice by being in custody. As it is, he will be fined £50.

Formal judgment was postponed to give the defendant an opportunity of paying the fine.

This appears to be the first case of personation of a chemist and druggist which it has been the duty of the Society to prosecute, and probably the Recorder took cognisance of this circumstance in imposing on the accused a monetary penalty only. Subsequent offenders will probably not be dealt with so leniently, for, as the Recorder observed, the offence is a serious one. The only other case bearing any similarity to this was one tried at the Old Bailey in 1877, when certain persons were charged with personation at the preliminary examination. Here, however, the examination did not relate to the practical business of a chemist and druggist, and, taking all the circumstances into consideration, the Common Sergeant allowed the prisoners to go out upon their own recognisances.

THE CINCHONA AGREEMENT.

The news that the agreement between the cinchona planters of Java and the European and American cinchona planters has at last been signed hardly comes as a surprise. The news, however, that the whole of the offering of manufacturing cinchona bark had been withdrawn from the Amsterdam bark auctions, could hardly have failed to cause some excitement. So far there has been no advance in price of quinine, it appearing as if, as a counter move to the withdrawal of the offerings of cinchona bark from the auctions in Amsterdam, the manufacturers of quinine had decided to let matters rest awhile. What the immediate course of events will be it is somewhat difficult to foresee. Possibly the practically inevitable advance in price of quinine may be postponed. At the same time, however, it is as good as certain that sooner or later, and probably sooner rather than later, the advance in price of quinine will become an established fact. There is, moreover, a general impression that the advance, while same may quite possibly be gradual, will also be progressive, and that at a not too distant date we may see price of quinine sulphate nearer 1s. 6d. than to the figure at which on the next advance price it will, it is anticipated, be fixed—viz., 1s. per oz.

PATENT-MEDICINE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Select Committee on Patent Medicines, presided over by Sir Henry Norman, hope to present their report before the end of the Session. The outcome of the inquiry is of considerable interest to the public, as, if the Committee's proposals are generally approved, steps may be taken next Session to give effect to them. Although the consideration of the report is not concluded, there is reason to believe that one of the chief recommendations will be that the administration of the regulations affecting the sale and advertisement of proprietary articles should be carried out by one body under one department of the State, instead of under several, as at present. It will probably be agreed also to recommend that quack advertisements professing to cure some of the deadliest diseases, such as cancer and consumption, should be prohibited, and that there should be a more rigorous censorship of the advertisements of patent medicines professing to cure peculiarly feminine complaints. Another subject with which the report may be expected to deal is whether the vendors of patent medicines should be required to accompany each article with a statement of the ingredients. It is thought unlikely that this recommendation will be made, and that the view taken will probably be that to give a statement of the formula to the State authority would meet the case.

CHEMISTS' DEFENCE ASSOCIATION.

The 12th Annual Meeting of the Chemists' Defence Association has just been held. The chairman (Mr. C. J. Bunker) made

some interesting remarks in his opening address. He pointed out that throughout the year legal advice had been given on a tremendous number of subjects, those enumerated in the report being but a few of those received, and this branch of the work was certainly taken full advantage of and much appreciated. The claims for damages were slightly higher during the year, but this was only to be expected with a larger membership. Some of the things over which mistakes were made seemed almost incredible; for instance, who would have believed it possible that a strong solution of perchloride of iron would ever be sold in mistake for tincture of rhubarb, and yet this had actually happened. There were a good many pharmacists who were thankful for the existence of the C.D.A. when these unfortunate mistakes happened. So far as police-court cases were concerned, their record was an excellent one, for in almost all the cases they had to deal with they were either won by the C.D.A. or only a mitigated penalty was imposed. He was glad to say that wholesale drug houses were now sending out drugs and chemicals of vastly improved quality, and it was, therefore, somewhat curious that so many members had taken advantage of the free analysis by the Association's analyst. The balance-sheet submitted was very instructive and of a highly satisfactory character, and he was sure the members would agree that a credit balance of £685 on the year's working spoke well for the careful management of the Association's work.

Mr. Pickard, in seconding the motion for the adoption of the report, said that what surprised him most was the fact that nearly all chemists were careful to be insured against fire, which was a much more remote contingency than mistakes happening in their pharmacies, yet these chemists remained aloof from the benefits of membership of the C.D.A. When anything did happen they then realised their error too late, and he emphasised the fact that it was necessary to be a member for at least a month before members were entitled to any benefit. He was of opinion that during the next 12 months claims would be more numerous owing to the extra work caused by the National Insurance Act, and, therefore, he strongly advised non-members to see to it that they were soon on the safe side by joining at an early date.

Dr. Barnes raised the question of the vexatious anomalies in the present British Pharmacopoeia, and suggested that members who had influence with any of the compilers of the new edition about to be published should do what they could to rectify these hardships. He had done so personally, and he thought with good results.

A member contended that the C.D.A. should take up the cases of chemists who had disputes with the National Insurance Committees over the payment of accounts, and especially so far as proprietary medicines were concerned.

Mr. Rowsell said that the present year of the working of the N.I.A. was quite provisional, and that the tariff laid down was only for a 12 months' trial. It had been drawn up to suit local conditions in different areas, where each Committee did the best it could to ensure its smooth working. The experience which the Pharmaceutical Standing Committee were gaining of the working of the tariff would help them to formulate a much more comprehensive tariff, so that in another year the whole of the working would be on a more liberal basis.

British Pharmaceutical Conference. Jubilee Meeting.

The jubilee meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, which was held in London during the last week in July, was one of the most interesting and impressive gatherings of pharmacists ever held. Perfect organisation, good weather and a judicious mixture of serious discussions and social functions tended to make the meeting a complete success in every way.

Amongst those who were present were Mr. Rawson P. Francis, Melbourne, and his wife; Mr. Victor Say, of Benalla, and Mr. T. P. Isaac, of Melbourne, who conjointly represented the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia. Mr. J. W. Clayton, of Adelaide, who is pursuing his medical studies in London, was the representative of the South Australian Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. A. Wadsworth, who was to have represented New South Wales and Western Australia, was not present, and no intimation that he

had been appointed a delegate was given to the meeting.

Mr. Francis very courteously forwarded an interesting account of the Conference meetings to the Council of the Society he represented, accompanied by a complete set of the programmes, guide books, and other literature issued by the executive. These show the large amount of organising work which had to be done in order that the various meetings and social functions might be carried out smoothly and without confusion.

Mr. Francis, writing just after the conclusion of the Conference, says:—

"Shortly after my arrival in London I called at Bloomsbury Square, and was one of the first to congratulate Mr. W. J. Uglow Woolcock on his appointment as Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society, as I saw him almost immediately after the meeting of council at which his appointment was made. He is also local secretary to the B.P.C., so I presented my credentials, and in due course received invitations for myself and Mrs. Francis to attend all the functions which have been arranged for this jubilee meeting now being held (July 21st to 25th, 1913) to celebrate this important occasion. Under separate cover I am sending you all the programmes, time table, and guide book that have been issued to all the members of conference, and from these you will gain a better idea of the work and care that has been taken beforehand to make this Jubilee Meeting a success, than any amount of description that I could give you.

"The opening ceremony was a reception at the Guild Hall (Mr. J. Umney, President), and the Lord Mayor, London, made a short speech of welcome to the conference: it was 10 years since it was last held in London. After the President's reply, a programme of music was held in the main hall and a concert in the picture gallery, both most enjoyable, the guests moving about and chatting between the items, and there were good refreshments available in the crypt. We did not leave until 'God Save the King' was played at 11 o'clock.

"Tuesday, July 22nd, the Conference opened at 10 a.m., with an address of welcome by the President of the Society (Mr. Edmund White, B.Sc.), replied to by Mr. Umney and Mr. Siever. Mr. Umney then read his presidential address on the revision and publication of the 'British Pharmacopœia.' The president's view was that the pharmacist of to-day is of necessity requisitioned by the General Medical Council in the revision of this work, but is not put in a position of equality. It was alleged that the 'British Pharmacopœia' is the only publication of the kind in the world in which two practitioners of the healing art, the prescriber and the dispenser, are not recognised as being on terms of absolute equality. It was urged that as the State had now recognised the pharmacist as the dispenser of medicines as distinct from the prescriber in the National Insurance Act, the time was ripe for the further consideration of this question of the publication of the 'Pharmacopœia,' and the president laid before the conference the draft of a Bill providing for the periodical revision and publication of an Imperial 'Pharmacopœia' by a body representative of the medical profession and pharmacists, not only of Great Britain, but of India and the Oversea Dominions of the Empire.

"In his address, the president declared that the time had arrived when the conditions favoured readjustment of function, medical and pharmaceutical, and he argued that this should be done with amity on both sides. The preparation of the 'British Pharmacopœia' was conferred upon the General Medical Council by the Medical Act of 1858, but as early as 1874 the council of the Pharmaceutical Society urged upon the General Medical Council the desirability of associating more practical pharmacists with any committee which might be appointed for the purpose of preparing any future edition, and since then representations had been persistently made to the effect that the association of representatives of pharmacy with the medical profession in the compilation of the 'Pharmacopœia' was necessary. There could be no question that the rights of the General Medical Council to publish this work could only be overruled by an Act of Parliament. It had been suggested that the Government might introduce a measure dealing with the subject, but the Government at the present time had its hands full. He suggested, therefore, that the council of the Pharmaceutical Society should consider the draft Bill before the conference, with a view to submitting it with a petition to the Privy Council, in the hope

that the Privy Council might see fit to introduce such a Bill into Parliament. Failing that, however, the Bill should be introduced into Parliament by the Parliamentary secretary of the society. After giving details of the proposed Bill, which included a provision to entrust the revision of the 'Pharmacopœia' to a commission of representatives of Great Britain and Ireland, the Indian Empire and the Dominions, the president expressed the hope that the conference would not have gone many years in its second half-century before the reformation which he advocated came about. A vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Umney by Mr. S. R. Atkins, of Salisbury, a past president, and a veteran over 80 years of age. The Secretary then read the report of the Executive, which was accepted on the proposal of Mr. Druce, seconded by Mr. Ransom. The ladies then left on a visit of inspection to the Mansion House and St. Bartholomew's Church, and, I understand, spent an enjoyable and instructive morning.

"We all met again for lunch, 1.30 to 2.30; no speeches. At 11.30 a.m. the science section was held and papers read, as shown in the accompanying programme.

"After lunch, at 2.30 p.m. the Practice Session was opened, with Mr. W. S. Glynn-Jones as Chairman. In a short opening speech he allotted to each of the four who opened the discussion ten minutes, in which they could read their papers (pages 35 to end of the book), and explain any points that they wished to draw special attention; then an hour was given for discussion—time limit, 5 minutes; after this the openers were allowed a further 5 minutes each for reply, and this left the chairman 15 minutes to sum up, and these time limits were strictly adhered to. The speeches were most interesting, and there were no lack of speakers.

"The day was brought to a close with a dinner in the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant, to which I should think at least 500 guests sat down. The only toast was that of the King. There was a very good programme of music, and if there were any who didn't enjoy themselves, it was simply their own fault.

"Wednesday, July 23rd, the Conference Session was resumed at 10 a.m., but I cannot tell you what took place, as I preferred to join the excursion at 10.30 a.m. Six motor omnibuses, each accommodating about 30 passengers, were engaged, and were well patronised both by ladies and gentlemen. We were first taken for a drive round the West End, and shown various places of interest, including the new Victoria Monument in front of Buckingham Palace, a most glorious work of art. Finishing up by being shown all over both Houses of Parliament, and then driving back to the Holborn for lunch at 1.30. The afternoon was filled with the closing session of the Conference, 2.30 till 3.30, followed by a garden party at the Royal Botanic Gardens. These gardens are well worth a visit, beautifully laid out. The Palm House and the Rhododendron beds are sights to be remembered, and I was taken back to my old student days by the portion devoted to systematic botany and medicinal plants.

"The day was completed by a smoke concert in the King's Hall. Fully 600 people were present at the dinner last night, and also at this concert. Thursday, July 24th, was the excursion by rail to Windsor, thence by launch up the river to Bourne End, returning by special train to town at 7.15 p.m. We were favoured with weather that even an Australian could not find fault with —bright, warm sunshine and a delightfully fresh breeze the whole time. Owing to the suffragettes the State apartments at Windsor have been closed to visitors without an order, and we were specially favoured by being shown all over. The whole outing was perfectly planned and carried out, as we arrived at Paddington at 7.15, only three minutes behind scheduled time.

"I shall remember the Jubilee Meeting of the B.P.C. for many years, and think myself fortunate in being able to be present. Every attention possible was paid to the visitors and the general arrangements in connection with the conference work were admirably carried out. The only other Australian that I met was Mr. Victor Say, of Benalla, who, I think, attended all the sessions and functions.

"Next week we are leaving for a trip to Norway, and I am hoping that the good weather that we have experienced ever since we left Melbourne will follow us.

"With kind regards to yourself and the members of the Board and Council."

American Notes.

POWERS OF PHARMACY BOARDS.

The validity of the conviction of a grocer of a violation of the California Poison Act of 1907, and of a resolution and regulation prescribed by the State Board of Pharmacy under and by virtue of certain provisions of the Poison Act by the sale of ant poison, containing arsenic, was challenged. The Poison Act empowered the Board to restrict or prohibit the retail sale of any poison by rules "not inconsistent with the laws of this State," and the schedule annexed to it contained a list at the head of which stood "arsenic, its compounds and preparations." The California Pharmacy Act of 1905 empowered the Board to "regulate the sale of poisons." In 1909, section 16 of that Act was amended, and it was provided that "the following drugs, medicines, and chemicals may be sold by grocers and dealers generally without restriction." An enumeration of articles following concluded with "insect powder, fly paper, ant paper," etc., "when prepared and sold only in original and unbroken packages and labelled with the official poison labels." It was held that these acts were in pari materia, and must be harmonised, if possible, and that the Board could not prohibit the sale of ant poison except by licensed pharmacists.

SALE OF NARCOTICS.

Under the Georgia Penal Code 1910 any person who sells morphine not on the order or prescription of a licensed physician, dentist, or veterinary surgeon, is guilty of a misdemeanor, without reference to whether the seller be the proprietor of a drug store or merely the employee of such a proprietor. An instruction to the jury by a trial judge embodying this principle of law has been held not to be subject to the criticism that it was argumentative, or contained an expression of an opinion, or was misleading or confusing.

ALL NIGHT DRUG STORES.

Dr. Douglas, the City Medical Health Officer, of Winnipeg, Canada, has been instructed by the Health Committee to ascertain if arrangements could be entered into which would insure two or three pharmacies open all night. A suggestion was made by the city authorities that the city should establish a pharmacy, which would be open night and day. Dr. Douglas could not see that this would be a wise move on the part of the council, as the expense would be heavy, due to the requirement of a double shift, day and night. He added that, in conversation with a number of druggists, he was informed that but little business was done between the hours of twelve midnight and eight the next morning. He thought, however, arrangements could be made which would insure the furnishing of drug and medical supplies when such would be necessary during nights and Sundays. The council instructed the doctor to complete such arrangements as would satisfactorily meet the situation.

PRICE PROTECTION ILLEGAL.

The Supreme Court of the United States, says the *Bulletin of Pharmacy*, has recently given a decision of first importance to all those concerned in the subject of price protection. We refer to the decision in the Sanatogen case, and this follows two other decisions of similar import. For ten or fifteen years, perhaps longer, the lesser courts throughout the United States, county, State, and Federal, have been passing on the legality of direct-contract plans and other schemes for the restriction of prices of patented and unpatented articles. Some of these decisions have been favourable to restriction; others have been unfavourable; and the situation has been one of confusion worse confounded. It has remained for the court of final resort—the Supreme Court of the United States—to settle the question beyond all peradventure, and this it has now done in a series of three decisions rendered within the last year or two. This trio of rulings, if we mistake not, proves it to be *illegal and impossible for a manufacturer to restrict or control the price of his products once he has sold them and lost direct ownership and interest in them.*

CUBAN PHARMACY LAW.

This enactment restricts the sale of medicinal specialities and patent medicines to pharmacists. Foreign firms desirous of placing their preparations on the Cuban market must first make application to the Board of Health and comply with the following conditions:—The label must bear an indication 6.2 grammes — $^{6\cdot2}/_{100}$ in each 100 cc.? (3) In the prosecution of Mr. T. E. Johns for

of the ingredients to which the preparation owes its medicinal value; and a consular attest showing that the remedy is manufactured in the country of origin in a recognised laboratory.

It is proposed to issue a list of specialities which have not complied with the conditions imposed, and which, therefore, may not be sold. In the case of a foreign firm establishing a branch in Cuba for the preparation of their specialities in that country, it is required that the same shall be in charge of a qualified pharmacist, whose name must appear on the labels of the articles in question. Agencies or branches of foreign firms not employing a pharmacist will have to be closed.

Articles.

Percentage Strengths.

By T. E. Turner.

A doctor gets from a pharmacist for an operation 10 per cent. solution of cocaine hydrochloride (i.e., 10 per cent. weight for volume, 10 grains in 100 grain measures, 10 grains in 110 minims). He comes back the next day and says to the pharmacist: "That solution of cocaine was too strong, I will have it 5 per cent. weaker this time." Should the pharmacist supply 5 per cent. solution or 9½ per cent.? The actual supply was 5 per cent., because the pharmacist knew what the doctor wanted; moreover, the reduction to 9½ per cent. would have made no appreciable difference in actual practice. I put this problem to a leading accountant, a gentleman who is in charge of millions of pounds worth of securities, and he disposed of it very cavalierly. He said: "The pharmacist was wrong, he should supply 9½ per cent. every time. If the doctor said he wanted the solution 10 per cent. weaker, you would not say he wanted nothing."

Examples I have before me—(1) A prescription from Dr. J. W. Baxter says: Ung. Hyd. Ox. Flav. (50 per cent. B.P.) ℥i. Nothing is easier than this, simply half the strength of the B.P. ointment. (2) Mr. C. E. Towl in 1901 set a question in the Final Examination, Div. III. How many grains of KON in 200 c.c. of a solution 1 per cent. weaker than the B.P.? Did he mean 6.2 grammes less 1 gramme in each 100 cc., or supplying Spts. Aeth. Nit. below the standard, the prosecution stated that the spirit sold was 63 per cent. deficient in ethyl nitrite. It is evident that as the spirit should contain 2.5 per cent. only of ethyl nitrite, percentage of percentage was meant. (4) In Messrs. Parke, Davis' little work, "Standardised Products," we find: "He also examined three tinctures of aconite, one of which was found to contain 9 per cent. more aconitine than the standard required, and another 20 per cent. less." Then, as the strength of the U.S.P. tincture is .045 per cent. of aconitine, it stands to reason that the excess was $^{9}/_{100}$ of .045, and the deficiency in the other was $^{20}/_{100}$ of .045. The next paragraph reads: "Samples of belladonna preparations showed from 25 to 45 per cent. less of mydriatic alkaloids than officially required in the powdered extract of the leaves, and 11.5 per cent. less in the fluid extract of the root. Some powdered nux vomica was found to be comparatively worthless, while a few tinctures of this drug revealed an excess of strychnine—in one case 19 per cent." The reading in each of these cases must be percentage of percentage.

Let us consider the meaning of percentage. If we consult Webster, we find it to be "A certain rate per cent.," and that it is made up of "per cent + age, as in average." Cent. comes from the Latin centum, a hundred; therefore Webster so defines it and illustrates thus: "As ten per cent., the proportion of ten parts in a hundred."

How does the term apply in commerce? We lend or borrow money at 5 per cent., i.e., at the rate of 5 pounds per annum for every 100 pounds lent or borrowed. At the end of the year the borrower finds that the interest is too much for him, and applies for a reduction of 1 per cent., saying that he is only able to pay 4 per cent. Again a company does better business during 1913 than it did during 1912, and the directorate says we paid 7 per cent. last year, we will pay 1 per cent. higher this; the shareholders consequently get 8 per cent. dividend. Yet, again, a pharmacist says: "I cleared 40 per cent. on my purchases last year, this year I will make 5 per cent. more." He certainly clears 45 per cent.

Was the pharmacist right or wrong with the cocaine solution?

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NOTICES.

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER MEETINGS.

Sept. 23.—Statutory Meeting "Sigma" Co., 8.30 p.m.

Sept. 24.—Inspection Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co.'s factory, 2.30 p.m.

Sept. 30.—P.D.L. general meeting to discuss Amalgamated Insurance and the National Insurance proposals, 8.30 p.m.

Oct. 1.—Pharmaceutical Council, 11 a.m.

Oct. 2.—Delegates Metropolitan Committee, 10.30 a.m., College of Pharmacy.

Oct. 7.—College Reunion, 8 p.m.

Oct. 8.—Pharmacy Board, 11 a.m.

Oct. 15.—P.D.L. directors, 11 a.m.

Readers are requested to send personal paragraphs and items of interest to the Editor, for insertion in the journal, not later than the 14th of the Month.

The Month.

National Insurance.

The Federal Statistician, under directions from Mr. Glynn, the Minister for External Affairs, has taken the initial steps to open up communication with State Statisticians, Friendly Societies, the representatives of the medical profession and pharmacists, with a view of securing their co-operation in the proposed national insurance scheme to be brought before the Federal Parliament. The different bodies will be informed of what the Federal Government contemplates, and their assistance and suggestions in the way of making the scheme as perfect as possible will be invited. As soon as the particulars are received they will be forwarded to the various pharmaceutical bodies for consideration.

Is National Insurance Necessary.

At the annual supper of the Melbourne Medical Association, held at the Grand Hotel on September 13, the retiring president (Dr. Ramsay Webb) referred to the subject of national medical insurance. He questioned whether the demand for this class of social work was at all widespread. It was a proposal involving the expenditure of enormous sums of money, and supplanting a well-tried and successful system by one which radically varied the relationship of whole classes of the community. The national character demanded more weighty recommendation than half a dozen lines in a party programme. (Hear, hear.) "That which was good for the northern hemisphere cannot be bad for the southern," was the triumphant argument of a powerful advocate of national medical insurance; yet one might gratefully welcome a measure which at least promised some relief to the teeming millions of Great Britain's "submerged tenth," and at the same time have grave doubts as to its applicability to our prosperous Australian people. (Hear, hear.) The advocates of compulsory medical insurance in Australia had not so far attempted to show any economic data to support their proposals. In this connection certain figures from the Registrar of Friendly Societies in Victoria might be of value. Briefly, adopting the usual assumption that each member has dependent on

him three other persons, more than 2,120,000 people in Australia had their medical attendance provided by the friendly societies. This meant 38 per cent. of the entire population. He estimated that the average lodge member in Victoria, as such, contributed 15s. per annum, and concluded that nearly 40 per cent. of the population of Australia received medical attention at an approximate charge of 4s. or 5s. per annum per head. If to this 40 per cent. already insured were added the well-to-do classes who had no claim whatever to State aid, and the number of persons who by reason of their extreme poverty or their residence in sparsely populated districts must always be treated in hospitals, there remained only a very inconsiderable residuum to come within the scope of a compulsory insurance act. Senator Millen, in acknowledging the toast of the visitors, said that so far as National Insurance was concerned, although the present indications pointed to something being done in this direction, the Government would place itself in the fullest and frankest confidence with the medical profession before anything definite was decided upon.

First Year of P.D.L.

At the end of the current month the first year of the P.D.L. closes. Many important things to pharmacy have happened during the twelve months. Events have followed one another with such rapidity that it seems almost impossible to believe that another year has gone. Every day seems to have brought some business to be done, and there has been a ceaseless activity on the part of the chairman and the directors in attending to the important matters which have arisen. The directors hope that their efforts to uphold the interests of pharmacists will meet with appreciation, and that every member will renew his membership and do his utmost to induce others to join. In due course the annual report will be placed before the members, and this document should be a record of much useful work achieved in the interests of the craft.

An Important Development.

During the month the Prospectus of a new insurance company was issued. This venture is principally promoted by the directors of P.D.L., who have made a very good bargain which is likely to be of considerable value to the members. The arrangements made a year ago with the Insurance Office of Australia, under which the insurance business of members of P.D.L. was as far as possible transacted with that company, has had, owing to regulations in existence amongst insurance offices, to be discontinued as from 30th September, and, although several schemes were submitted under which P.D.L. would not be in any worse position, it was considered that the most advantageous thing to do was to promote an entirely new company. The directors consulted their solicitor and sought the advice of a number of leading business men, and after several conferences the preliminaries were arranged and the new venture placed on the market.

The directors, in a circular issued to the members, state that they are thoroughly satisfied in every respect with the attitude of the I.O.A. in connection with the whole matter, and can only express appreciation of the manner in which the business of their members has been handled. Satisfactory arrangements have been made with the I.O.A. to renew all the indemnity policies on the same terms as the previous year.

Commenting on the prospectus of the new company, the financial editor of the Sydney "Bulletin," in the issue of 12th September, states:—"Another fire and marine office is ready for launching—Amalgamated Insurance (Australia) Ltd. The real promoter is A. E. Druitt, for many years manager in South Australia and Queensland of the Ocean office. The idea is more or less novel. A company is to be formed in 400,000 5s. shares. This company will establish and finance a separate company in each State capital. It won't do any direct insurance itself; it will merely provide the funds for the local companies, and give them the financial backing which purely local companies, launched independently, wouldn't be able to command. Of course, this will mean that it will have a general control over the local concerns. The intention is to give the shareholders in each State the right to appoint their local Board, and each of these Boards will appoint a member of the central Board. Experience has shown that, in fire insurance, success comes most surely to the local office which pushes itself out slowly from its home centre; and this

is an attempt to combine the advantage of that kind of office with the larger financial backing of a more general concern. Apart altogether from this interesting experiment, the new proposition is welcome. There is still a heap of Australian business waiting for Australian offices to get; and the surest way to get it quickly is to interest the public as shareholders. No promoters' shares are being taken, and generally the prospectus is clean and straightforward."

New South Wales News.

Sydney pharmacists have been active during the month. The P.D.L. directors convened an important meeting to meet Mr. Towl, and some interesting addresses are reported in this issue. The question of pharmaceutical education was discussed at the September meetings of the Pharmacy Board and the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society. One wise decision is that the Board does not intend to relinquish its right to examine pharmacy students. At any cost, this right should be preserved, notwithstanding any advantages which the University might offer. It is satisfactory to note that the Government has placed £250 on the Estimates to meet the expenses of administering the Pharmacy and Poisons Acts. The Council of the Society is contemplating issuing a "black list," and has obtained legal advice that this may be done. Our Sydney correspondent forwards a batch of other interesting news.

Debt Collection Action.

A case of interest to pharmacists came before the District Court, Melbourne, on September 15. A well-known country pharmacist gave a debt of £6 to a firm of debt collectors to collect. The debt was collected, and the firm made a claim for the usual commission of 10 per cent., and also a retaining fee of £2 2s. The pharmacist refused to pay the retaining fee, and brought the matter under the notice of the Law Association, who decided to take it up. A summons was issued against the pharmacist, and the matter came before the magistrates as stated, with the result that the bench advised the plaintiffs to withdraw the case and pay the costs, £5, which they did. Other pharmacists may have experienced similar claims, and the case is therefore of interest to them.

South Australian Medical Bill.

The *Australasian Medical Gazette*, in discussing the Medical Practitioners Bill now before the South Australian Parliament, says:—

"It seems almost impossible to drive into the mind of the layman that any 'common ailment' may be a symptom of serious disease, and that the administration of a dose of castor-oil to a patient who was suffering from constipation, might be a very serious matter if the constipation were due to strangulated hernia or intestinal obstruction. But until the general public can be better educated in medical matters we will always find some who prefer to trust their lives to the heaven-inspired herbalist or quack, rather than the educated medical practitioner. The chemist who prescribes over the counter for venereal disease can only do so in a rule-of-thumb manner, which in any particular case may prove disastrous to the unfortunate patient; and it is only right that such disasters should be prevented, if not by the good sense of the dispensing chemist, then by Act of Parliament. Unfortunately, the medical profession generally incurs public odium in any attempt to secure legislation which may protect the profession, but which helps to a much greater extent to protect the public. We are accused of attempting to establish a close monopoly. We might well ask what about the rigid monopoly of the law? The lawyers are protected by such stringent regulations that any one who transgresses may be removed from the roll, and he must cease to practise his profession, perhaps for life. The medical quack can practise abortion, cause the deaths of numbers of innocent women, but he must be allowed to continue his nefarious trade, and ruin the health and lives of hundreds of unfortunate 'patients.' The profession of medicine has a right to be protected from the competition of uneducated and unscrupulous quacks, who trade on the credulity of the public, but the general public have still

greater need to be protected from themselves and their own stupidity and ignorance, and from the 'assistance' of the writers in the lay press, who fail to grasp the seriousness of the situation in advocating the recognition of the herbalist, the optician, the dispensing chemist, as competent to give medical and surgical advice. We sincerely hope that the bill will not be emasculated in its passage through Parliament, but that it will retain the essence of all the present provisions." In discussing the Bill on September 2 the Hon. J. Vaughan said that while he desired to legislate against incompetence and extortion, the present proposals were an attack on freedom of conscience, because there were many people who believed in Christian scientists, faith-healers, and herbalists, and, as Gladstone said, a man had as much right to choose his doctor as he had to select his bootmaker. He would put all healers under Government supervision, but the present measure was so drastic that he doubted whether under it a doctor could leave a nurse in charge of a patient. As the result of representations made by the South Australian P.D.L., the clause preventing pharmacists from giving advice in minor ailments has been withdrawn.

Grocery Employees.

The Shop Assistants' Federation and the Grocers Employees' Union are about to affiliate with the Trades Hall and the Political Labour Council. It is intended to divide shop assistants into two branches (1) assistants in shops other than grocery establishments, and (2) employees in grocers' shops. The grocery section is to comprise the following industries:—Grocery, provisions, crockery, patent medicines, drugs, tea, coffee, cocoa, and fish. It is not clear whether pharmacists have been included, but the combined association will operate to secure increased wages for the salesmen handling drugs and patent medicines in grocery shops and other establishments.

Photographers Combine.

The old axiom that "union is strength" has appealed to the photographers of Melbourne and suburbs, and a movement is now on foot to organise the whole of the master photographers of Victoria. At a recent meeting of those engaged in the business it was agreed to form an association, the chief object of which is to regulate prices and generally uphold the status of the profession. Another general meeting was held at the offices of the Employers' Federation on September 5, at which representatives were present from the principal country centres, and the opinion was expressed that a protective organisation was an urgent necessity. The general contention was that prices for photographic production were too low, especially in view of the fact that the cost of plates and other requisites had increased, and there was a possibility of employers having to pay higher wages in the near future. The chairman explained that it was intended to invite all photographers to join the association, provided they were working on their own account or employing labour. A set of rules was adopted, in which it is provided that the object of the organisation is primarily to protect members and safeguard the interests of the profession, and to encourage and foster a code of ethics calculated to uplift the art. The rules also set out that the association should take united action in regard to all matters affecting members. There are to be no distinctions, every photographer, or seller of photographic goods, whether in business in the city, suburbs, or country, being entitled to all the privileges and benefits which the association can bestow.

Proposed Higher Cork Duties.

A petition has been circulated amongst members of the Federal Parliament by local cork cutters, urging a substantial increase (100%) in the present duty on corks. The matter is a serious one, and each State pharmaceutical authority should take action to have a list of reasons formulated why the duties should not be increased. It is stated on good authority that unless some such action is taken, the tariff is certain to be increased, and the prices of corks will in consequence be proportionately higher.

Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on September 10.

Present.—The President (Mr. C. E. Towl) in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, Fleay, Jewkes, and Sayer. An apology was received from Mr. Gulliver.

Correspondence.—To Pharmacy Board of Tasmania, stating that the Board had no power to differentiate between the claims of examined and unexamined persons on the Register in respect to reciprocity. In the eyes of the law, once a person's name was placed on the Register he was assumed to be a qualified and competent pharmacist, and, therefore, entitled to any reciprocal privileges. The Board, however, might differentiate as regards future registrations. It was, therefore, asked that the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania accept the Register on a stated date as it stood, and thenceafter only examined men.

Health Department, in reference to prosecutions which were pending at Orbost, Rutherglen, and Glenrowan.

Pharmacy Board of Queensland, asking for certificate of death of Thomas Parker, who died at George Town on August 16.

The Under-Secretary, certifying that James J. Scott, Trentham, was entitled to a permit under the Opium Smoking Prohibition Act.

Letters Inwards.—Pharmacy Board of South Australia, thanking the Board for the courtesy extended to Mr. Porter on the occasion of his recent visit to Melbourne.

W. J. Woolcock, Secretary Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, thanking the Board for copy of photograph, and stating that he would be glad to extend a hearty welcome to any Australian pharmacists visiting the old country.

Morris, Little and Co., forwarding copy of analysis of "Phenoid" soluble disinfectant (improved phenyle), stating that this preparation contained three per cent. of phenol, and homologues thereof.

Director of Education, stating that the question of awarding scholarships in connection with the Board's Preliminary Examination was receiving consideration.

G. H. Bartleman, asking if two proprietary preparations, which contained colchicum and colchicine respectively, came under the Poisons Act. Informed that they did.

Health Department, stating that owing to the inspector's absence at Albury on small-pox duty it had not been possible to proceed with the prosecutions for breaches of the Poisons Act at Orbost, Rutherglen, and Glenrowan.

Arbuckle, Waddell, and Fawckner, forwarding quotation for printing 200 copies of the approved apprenticeship indenture. Resolved that the tender be accepted, and that the indentures when printed be supplied at 1s. per copy, or three for 2s. 6d.

James Tipping, Bairnsdale, bringing under notice the practice of certain firms of wool brokers selling strychnine in large parcels to associations of graziers. Resolved that a reply be sent stating that the Board would have inquiries made in the matter.

Higgins, Grellis and Co., Geelong, asking if "Cleansol" liquid disinfectant soap, which was labelled "poison," could be sold by ironmongers. Informed that if it contained more than three per cent. of phenol it could only legally be sold by qualified persons.

Charles E. Price, Government medico-legal analyst, forwarding reports on articles submitted for analysis, none of which contained scheduled poisons.

Clerk of Petty Sessions, Melbourne, forwarding fine of £5, and costs, £3 5s. 6d., in the case of Butchers v. Kenny.

State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, acknowledging receipt of memorandum in reference to the absence of a poisons label on a bottle of rabbit poison sold under the name of "Lazemont," and drawing attention to the necessity for a close observance of the Poisons Act, as two fatalities had occurred through the use of this poison. The Commission stated that steps would be taken in future to ensure that any poison in possession of the Commission's officers or employees would not be transferred from their custody unless the bottle or other vessel, wrapper or cover, box or case containing the poison bore the word "Poison" printed conspicuously thereon.

Police, Stratford, stating that the prosecution at Stratford had not yet come on for hearing.

Applications for Registration.—The following applicants were registered:—George Stewart Corson, Hamilton; Albert V. Huntsman, Malvern; and Harry A. P. Emonson, Bendigo, passed Final Examination, Victoria. An application from Frank Brown, 260 Albert-street, East Melbourne, who was a qualified compounder and dispenser under the Bengal Medical Act, was postponed pending the production of further documentary evidence.

Apprentices' Indentures.—The following indentures of apprenticeship were registered:—Ruby Olive Cruise, Alexandra, to G. E. Gulliver and J. E. Wasley, Melbourne; Robert Wilhelm Maxwell, East Prahran, to R. W. Maxwell, East Prahran.

Poisons Licence.—A certificate under the Poisons Act was granted to Neville H. Rogers, Bena.

President's Visit to New South Wales and Queensland.—Mr. Towl said that he desired to acknowledge the kindness with which he had been received both in Sydney and Brisbane by those connected with official pharmacy in those centres. He had been very cordially received, and found that the work which the Board was doing was being appreciated in the other States.

Committee.—The Board went into committee to deal with several matters which had been brought under notice. The Registrar reported that during the month two or three cases had been investigated with negative results. Two complaints were received that a suburban and a country pharmacist were conducting their branch busi-

nesses with unregistered men. In one case, when attention was drawn to the matter, a registered chemist was at once employed. In the other case it was resolved to write asking for an explanation.

Dentists and the Narcotic Regulations.—A communication was received from the Dental Board of Victoria, stating that in the opinion of the Board the recent regulations restricting the sale of hypnotic and narcotic drugs interfered with the rights and privileges of dentists who had used these poisons in the ordinary course of their business for many years, and it was requested that the Regulation might be amended by allowing dentists to purchase these poisons upon their written order in the ordinary course of their business. It was resolved that the Dental Board be informed that the Board had no objection to the proposed amendment, which would be submitted in due course to the Government for adoption.

The September Examinations.—The examiners submitted the following reports on the September quarterly examinations.

Preliminary Examination, held at Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, Beechworth, Kyneton, and Shepparton. Twenty candidates presented themselves, and of these the following passed in order of merit stated:—Elsie Vera Kelley, Beechworth; Eric Tratham, Moonee Ponds; Edward M. Rasmussen, Ballarat; Winifred Cook, Eaglehawk; Malcolm Jones, Caulfield; Charles Farnback, Footscray; Arthur E. Clemence, Brunswick. Eligible to take the subjects indicated at the next examination:—Percival T Hurry, Auburn (arithmetic); Wm. B. Thompson, Kyneton (Latin and algebra); Thomas W. Lord, Shepparton (Latin and arithmetic).

The examiners reported that, whilst the single subject candidates had done well, those candidates who had come up for all subjects had performed indifferently. Insufficient attention was given to English essay writing and decimal manipulation in arithmetic, while the chronic weakness in Latin was still present. Candidate No. 18 (Elsie V. Kelley) had done conspicuously well. Her Euclid was absolutely flawless, and Mr. Clezy recommended that her certificate be endorsed "with merit." It was resolved that this suggestion be adopted. The Registrar reported that the percentage of passes in the examination was only 35 per cent. Arithmetic (30 per cent.) and algebra (38 per cent.) showed the poorest results, while in English (61 per cent.), Euclid (57 per cent), and Latin (50 per cent.), the respective percentage of passes was better. Candidates did not treat the examination seriously enough, and, seeing the moderate requirements in Algebra and Euclid, it was surprising that so many failed in these subjects.

Final Examination Practical Pharmacy, etc.).—Harry A. P. Emonson, Bendigo; Annie Doris Smith, Box Hill; Samuel Henry Marshall, Thornbury; John Wm. B. Pedley, Yarraville; Charles S. Buckley, Camberwell; Arthur H. Crundall, Melbourne; Albert V. Huntsman, Malvern. Eligible to take the subject indicated at the next examination:—Edward Potter, Port Melbourne (Practical Pharmacy, Division I.). Seven of the eight candidates passed. The examiners reported a better all-round preparation, particularly in the oral work. The writen work in Division I. (Practical Pharmacy) was only medium, and candidates failed to answer important questions affecting their everyday business.

The examiners' reports were received and adopted.

The Preliminary Examination Standard.—Dr. J. A. O'Brien, the Government visitor to the examinations, forwarded the file recently submitted to him in reference to the Preliminary Examination standard. Dr. O'Brien stated that he was still of opinion that the standard was too low. The future pharmacist was preparing to become a member of a learned profession, and it was necessary, therefore, that his educational requirements should reach a high standard. The attitude of the Board should be to ensure that every candidate should have at least the minimum range offered by the Junior Public Examination. Mr. Towl said the matter was an important one, but it seemed almost impossible to jump to the Junior Public standard at present. Even that examination seemed to be in a transitory stage, and there was a proposal to abolish the University Entrance Examination altogether. Mr. Buckhurst and Mr. Jewkes thought that the amount of Cæsar to be learned might be reduced without lowering the standard, and have the Algebra and Euclid slightly increased. Mr. Fleay said that this would tend to make the examinations more uniform. Mr. Sayer said that so long as the general standard was not lowered he considered the reduction in the amount amount of Cæsar to be learned would be an advantage. It was resolved that the examiner be asked to revise the syllabus on the lines suggested.

Reciprocity with New Zealand.—Owing to the absence of an applicant, who had passed the New Zealand examination, and who had been invited to be present, this matter was postponed to the next meeting.

Police Reports.—Two cases of lysol poisoning and one of A.B.C. liniment were reported. In the later case the chemist who sold the liniment had failed, under a misapprehension, to label the liniment poison, in the belief that sales of poison to medical men were exempted. Mr. Fleay stated that he had made inquiries re the mistake, which, he believed, had been made inadvertently, the liniment having been sold to a daughter of one of the local doctors. The President said that no doubt the case would be a warning to the chemist in question. If pharmacists had any doubt as to the interpretation of the Act they should write to the Board for information.

Hon. Treasurer's Statement.—The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Bailey) reported that after paying current accounts there was a shortage of £28. Very little revenue would come in next month, and it would be necessary to curtail expenditure as much as possible until the Board's finances were in a healthier condition.

The Board then adjourned.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia

The monthly meeting of the Council was held at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on September 3.

Present: The President (Mr. A. R. Bailey) in the chair, and Messrs. Champion, Cossar, Imes, Leete, Owen and Pickford. Mr. J. H. Young, secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia, was also present as a visitor, and was welcomed by the President and the members of the Council.

Apologies for non-attendance were received Messrs. Francis, Rankin, and Strutt.

Correspondence.—Mr. E. C. J. Davies, hon. secretary of the Shillinglaw Testimonial, applied for the use of the Board Room on September 24, for the purpose of making the presentation. On the motion of Mr. Cossar, seconded by Mr. Imes, it was resolved that the request be granted.

Mr. E. Norton Grimwade, acknowledging receipt of formal application for a grant in aid of the Society's Benevolent Fund, and stating that he had mentioned the matter to his colleagues on the Felton Bequest Committee. The request was one with which he was very much in sympathy, and on that account he would do the best he could on the Society's behalf.

The Director of Education, stating that before the proposed scheme for the allocation of University and Technical school scholarships and exhibitions was finally dealt with, the request of the Council that the claims of the College of Pharmacy to participate in the scheme might receive attention would be fully considered.

Mr. Rawson P. Francis forwarded an interesting account of the Jubilee Meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference, which he attended as one of the Society's delegates. It was resolved that a letter be forwarded to Mr. Francis, thanking him for the report.

Mr. W. G. Piper, editor of the "Chemist and Druggist," wrote, forwarding a copy of the Presidential Survey of the B.P. Conference issued by his London office, and making several suggestions regarding the true functions of a Pharmaceutical Society's library. Resolved that a letter of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Piper for his interest in the matter.

Election of New Members.—The following new members were balloted for and elected:—

Full Member.—Henry Newby Lemmon, 592 Chapel-street, South Yarra.

Associate Member.—George Stewart Corson, c/o. J. H. Rountree, Hamilton.

National Insurance.—The President reported the result of the deputation to the Prime Minister on National Insurance. Mr. Pickford asked why no representative of the Council was quoted in the published reports as being present. The President said that he attended in the dual capacity of president of the Society and president of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference. He thought the greater included the less. Mr. Pickford said he only drew attention to the matter, as there might be an impression that the Council was not represented at the deputation.

Pure Food Conference Report.—A copy of the report of the Federal and Interstate Conference on Uniform Standards for Foods and Drugs was laid on the table, and satisfaction was expressed that the results of the Conference were more favourable to pharmacists than those of the previous conference.

Workers' Compensation Bill.—The provisions of this measure, now before Parliament, were again considered, but it was thought that as pharmacists were only affected in common with other employers of labour, and that as the Government had made up its mind to pass the measure in its present form, it would be unwise to take any active steps in opposing the Bill.

Charities Bill.—A copy of this measure was laid on the table. Resolved that inquiries be made as to the possibility of the Society's Benevolent Fund being affected in any way by the Bill, and that if thought to be necessary application be made to have the Fund placed in the schedule of exemptions from the proposed Act.

Medical Bill of South Australia.—It was reported that this measure, which had been introduced into the South Australian Parliament, would have the effect of preventing chemists giving any advice to patients. Mr. Young informed the Council that steps were being taken to have chemists' rights and privileges preserved.

Tutorial Classes.—The secretary stated that the question of establishing evening tutorial classes for the Intermediate Examination for students who had attended the lectures had again been brought under notice, and a letter was received from Mr. T. E. Turner, lecturer in Materia Medica, commending the matter to the Council as a possible means of inducing a number of students who had not yet passed the intermediate examination, to make another attempt to qualify. Several members of the Council spoke in favour of the proposal, which was referred to the Education Committee for consideration and report.

Scholarship Fund.—Mr. Leete gave notice that the question of establishing an endowment fund to provide scholarships for research work be considered at the next meeting of the Council. He believed that if a start were made in this direction a substantial fund would be built up. Personally he would be willing to contribute £1 1s. a year towards such a fund, and he believed that other members of the Society would give either the same amount, or 10s. 6d., or 5s., for the same object. He thought that the matter was worthy of the attention of the Council. Mr. Pickford said he would second the motion. Some time ago he made a similar proposition, but it was never taken up seriously. It was resolved that the matter be discussed at the next meeting.

College Discipline.—Mr. Pickford moved that the Lectorial Board be asked to draw up a code of rules to be signed by all students entering the College. He considered this to be necessary in the interests of good order and discipline. Mr. Imes seconded the motion, which was carried.

The Library.—Mr. Pickford said that the Library required bringing more up to date. Many new books were wanted, and he thought that an

effort should be made to have the books numbered so as to be easily accessible. The president said that owing to the lack of space in the present book cases it was difficult to make much improvement, but he hoped that when the new library was completed a special effort would be made to make the library more useful. It was resolved that the matters brought under notice be referred to the Hon. Librarian (Mr. Rankin).

General Business.—The secretary reported that two members of the Council, Messrs. Francis and Strutt, were prevented from being present owing to illness. Resolved that letters of sympathy be sent in each case. It was reported that a commencement was made with the additions to the College on August 19th, and that the work was progressing satisfactorily. With regard to the proposed lectures on commercial subjects, the Secretary stated that he had made inquiries as to a special book dealing with pharmacists' accounts being available, but had found none to be obtainable in Melbourne. A letter had been forwarded to London, asking that a copy might be sent out.

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Owen) submitted the monthly financial statement, accounts were passed for payment, and the Council adjourned.

Metropolitan Chemists' Association.

Fitzroy District.

The section comprising pharmacists of Fitzroy, North Fitzroy, Collingwood, Preston, Northcote, Abbotsford, Clifton Hill, Carlton, North Carlton, Heidelberg, Ivanhoe, met on Monday, September 1st. There was a good attendance. Mr. G. H. Bartleman was elected chairman, Mr. H. J. O'Halloran hon. secretary, and Mr. C. H. Yelland hon. treasurer. Amongst other business transacted was the question of fixed minimum prices, and a schedule of rates was adopted as a minimum to be charged on the understanding that where higher prices prevailed they would be maintained at the discretion of the pharmacist.

It was decided that these minimum prices come into immediate operation at once, and a copy was ordered to be sent to every pharmacist in the section. At the same time every pharmacist was to be asked to price prescriptions, using "Antimsulph" as the mark.

Mr. Aumont gave notice that he would table a motion concerning the advisability of members depositing a certain sum or giving a bond to maintain the rules of the association, and maintain all prices adopted by the association.

North Melbourne and Essendon Section.

The second annual meeting of the above Association was held on August 14, Mr. T. Gardiner presiding over an attendance of thirteen. It was resolved to affiliate with the Metropolitan Chemists' Association, and Messrs. A. L. Jones and Arthur F. Vale were appointed delegates. Mr. Vale was also elected president of the Association; Mr. T. Gardiner, vice-president; Mr. J. Martin, hon. treasurer; Mr. J. H. Goode, hon. secretary; and Messrs. Battarbee and Pitt, hon. auditors. Mr. A. L. Jones was elected a member of the executive committee. The question of closing earlier than 8 p.m. was considered, and on a vote being taken, only three were found to be in favour of a change from the present conditions. The Association devotes a considerable amount of attention to social matters, and arrangements have been made to hold regular meetings of this nature.

East Suburban Section.

The members met at Glenferrie House on September 15th. Mr. Buckhurst presided over an attendance of 16. It was resolved that the delegates be instructed to use every possible endeavour to secure the Saturday half-holiday and to limit the Sunday business to 8 p.m., the same as on week-days. The resolution was carried by 14 votes to 2.

The new amalgamated insurance scheme was discussed at some length, and was favourably received by those present. The meeting then adjourned.

City Section.

Meeting held Champion's Hotel, September 16th. Mr. Buckhurst in the chair. Present:—Messrs. Gulliver, White, Longmore, Wasley, Rees, Sayle, Owen, Attwood, Cheshire, Fisher, Pleasance, Murphy, Poulton, Llewellyn, and Peters.

The list of prices issued by the Fitzroy and District Association was considered, and it was resolved that a copy be sent to every chemist in the section. Discussion took place as to whether combined buying or the revival of the P.A.T.A. would lead to the best results. The feeling of the meeting was against any buying system. Mr. Gulliver moved, Mr. White seconded, that the association be asked to do its utmost to re-form the P.A.T.A. Carried unanimously.

Messrs. Sayle and Wasley were elected delegates to the Central Executive.

It was resolved that a general expression of opinion be obtained from all city chemists as to the desirability of closing on Saturday afternoons, and whether some uniform hour for closing on Sunday should not be fixed.

The chairman explained the advantages to pharmacists in connection with the formation of the new insurance scheme, and urged those present to take up shares in the company.

South Suburban Section.

A meeting of members was held at the Star Hotel, Windsor, on September 16th. Mr. Bailey presided over an attendance of ten.

It was resolved to support the Metropolitan Chemists' Association, and the report of Mr. Leete, one of the delegates, was received and adopted.

A discussion took place regarding the advisability of closing on the Show Day holiday. The Malvern chemists reported that they all intended closing, but the Chapel-street pharmacists had decided to remain open, as all other businesses were not closing. In view of the diversity of opinion, no resolution was carried, but it was decided that an endeavour be made to secure uniformity in the matter next year.

It was resolved that the P.D.L. directors be asked to convene a general meeting of pharmacists to discuss the formation of Amalgamated Insurance (Australia) Ltd.

Mr. Bailey reported that the Federal Statistician was about to issue a schedule of questions to pharmaceutical organisations regarding National Insurance (Medical Benefits). The A.P. Conference was advising the different bodies interested on the matter.

After a discussion on the "Sigma" business, opened by Mr. Leete, the meeting adjourned.

MEETING OF DELEGATES.

The delegates appointed by the various sections met at the College of Pharmacy on Sept. 18. Present: Messrs. Buckhurst, Champion, Wasley, Jones, Sayle, Vale, May, Aumont, Markham, Peters, and Butchers.

Mr. Buckhurst was nominated as chairman, but explained that with so many pharmaceutical matters demanding his attention, he greatly desired someone else to act as chairman. Several other names were mentioned, but no decision was arrived at, and Mr. Buckhurst was asked to preside at the present meeting on the understanding that another appointment will be made later on.

Mr. C. L. Butchers (hon. sec.) asked the Committee to relieve him of this position. He had so much work on his hands that it was a physical impossibility to do justice to the Committee. He was heart and soul in sympathy with the movement and wished to do all in his power to assist it. A motion was passed accepting the resignation with regret, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Butchers for his services, and he was unanimously elected an Honorary Member of the Committee. Mr. A. L. J. Peters was, on the motion of the chairman, appointed hon. sec.

Messrs. Aumont, Sayle, and A. L. Jones were appointed a sub-committee to draw up rules and regulations under which the Central Committee would act.

The delegates were asked to get expressions of opinions from their sections.

1. Regarding the prices of proprietaries' coming under the Poisons Act;
2. On the marking of prescriptions uniformly;
3. The advisability of making an extra charge on medicines dispensed after ordinary closing hours, viz.:—8 p.m. to midnight, 1/-; midnight to 8 a.m., 2/6; such extra charges to be marked specially on the prescription.
4. The advisability of discontinuing the practice of sending messengers to private houses for prescriptions.
5. To obtain a general expression of opinion from pharmacists generally re earlier closing:—
   (a) Closing all day Sunday, one in each district to remain open in rotation.
   (b) Saturday closing—(1) 1.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. (2) 1.30 p.m. for the rest of the day. (3) 1.30 p.m. till the following Monday morning.
   (c) Closing every day, except Friday, at 7 p.m.
6. That the question be also asked in the circular: "Are you in favour of the resuscitation of the P.A.T.A., and would you be prepared to support it financially with £1/1/- subscription?"

It was resolved that the delegates meet again on Thursday, October 2, at 10.30 a.m. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Lecture on "Drugs."

Mr. T. E. Turner, Hawthorn, delivered a lecture on "Drugs" before the members of the Burwood branch of the A.N.A. on August 26th. Mr. Turner pointed out that the word "Drug" has several meanings, but in the British Pharmacopoeia, it was anything that was used in the compounding of medicine, derived either from the animal, vegetable, or mineral kingdom, or any preparation used in dyeing. It also had another strong, contemptuous meaning, used in every-day life, that was, anything that had a slow sale, or articles for which there was little demand, hence the expression "drug on the market."

Drugs were divided into two simple divisions, and were termed "organic" and "inorganic." The former was applied to drugs obtained from a living substance or vegetable kingdom. For example, "lanoline," which was extracted from sheep's wool, and afterwards purified, whilst the famous household article, eucalyptus, was obtained from the vegetable kingdom. The latter term was applied to anything that was obtained from the mineral kingdom, such as Epsom salts. Of course, it took years of study to define which of the drugs were useless, and which were beneficial, as, in the year 1618, according to the Pharmacopoeia, several medicines were prescribed, which, to the present-day population, would appear ridiculous. The actions of drugs had different effects on the organs of the body, as would be seen by quoting the following:—Tobacco acted as a sedative, that was, something to sooth the nerves, and smoking was a very soothing habit, if not abused. Opium was the most valuable of drugs, and was very often used by medical men in their everyday practice.

Strychnine was a convulsive poisonous drug, and if taken in excess would bring about fearful struggling, and a good antidote and emetic was tobacco, as this tended to stop convulsions by soothing the nerves. Prussic acid was a corrosive or paralytic poison, and caused quick death by suffocation. Chloroform was one of the first drugs discovered, and was now very largely used in surgical operations. In conclusion, Mr. Turner stated that owing to the chemists in the eastern suburbs closing during Saturday afternoons, the public considered that they would be inconvenienced, but he did not think this would be the case, as in urgent cases a doctor was called in, and he had practically everything that was essential to aid the patient. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Turner for the interesting and instructive manner in which he handled his subject.

Government Research Scholarships.

The following communication has been received from the University of Melbourne, through the Under Secretary, in response to an inquiry made by Dr. Plowman, on behalf of the Local Science Committee:—

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your favour.

There is no formal set of regulations regarding the Government Research Scholarships. The date fixed for the receipt of applications for awards is

the end of the first week in February, and candidates in submitting applications should set out the subjects on which they propose to conduct research, and they will be well advised to consult the Head of the Department under which the research would fall, prior to applying.

When the awards are made the Head of a University Department will be named in connection with each award as the person under whose direction the research is to be carried out, and claims for instalments of the grant will only be paid on his certificate that satisfactory work for the period covered has been done.

The work need not necessarily be done at the University, provided suitable means can be found for keeping the person charged with supervision informed as to its progress.

There is no restriction as to the subjects which may be offered for research. In theory, a research in any branch of knowledge may be submitted, although as a matter of practice it is conceivable that subjects might be offered which would have to be rejected because the University could not provide suitable direction and supervision.

The scholarships are paid in quarterly instalments, and are usually awarded in amounts varying from £25 to £150. Scholars receiving grants of £100 and upwards are required to devote the whole of their time to their research.

It is considered desirable that candidates should commence work on their research as near to the 1st March each year as possible. It is found, however, that a few usually drop out by resignation during the year, and occasionally a sufficient sum is set free in this manner to justify some additional awards about the month of October. When this is the case a notice is published calling for applications.—I have, etc.,

J. P. BAINBRIDGE, Registrar.

Dental.

Dental Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on August 15.

In the unavoidable absence of the President, the chair was occupied by Mr. Iliffe. Also present: Mr. Elvins, Dr. Nihill, Dr. Philpots.

Registration of a Dentist.—Mr. Leonard Charles Bult, L.D.S., B.D.Sc., made application for registration as a dentist. The application was granted.

Infringements of the Law.—The Registrar reported that during the last eight weeks six infringements of the law had been reported to the Board. In each case the Board had instituted immediate and effective proceedings, with the result that the action of the Board had been in each case successful, and further infringement of the law had been there and then prevented. In one case only had it been necessary to proceed by summons, viz., against A. S. Rainford, of Bridge-road, Richmond, who was charged with using the title of Dentist, and he was convicted in the Court of Petty Sessions of the offence, and fined £5, with £3/3/- costs.

Correspondence.—Correspondence of importance was received from various applicants, requesting information on points of law arising under the Dentists' Act. The letters were in each case minuted, and replies ordered to be sent.

The Board then adjourned.

New South Wales.

(From Our Sydney Correspondent.)

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The regular monthly meeting was held on September 9th. There were present Mr. W. Short (in the chair) and Messrs. T. S. Loney, Ll. P. Williams, F. P. J. Gray and E. Sharpe. Apologies were received from Messrs. H. S. Brothwood and C. J. Carrol.

Correspondence.—A letter was read from the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania with a copy of the new regulations framed under the Pharmacy Act of 1908 of Tasmania.

It was noticed by the Registrar that the fee for registration of any person wishing to register under the Reciprocity Agreement with Great Britain was twelve guineas.

Money Grant.—A communication was received from the Honorary Minister for the Treasury that the Minister had decided to place the sum of £250 on the Estimates for the work of the Pharmacy Board. A further communication was received from the Treasury that the Minister had authorised an advance of £100 being paid into the account of the Board, and a further communication from the bank was to the effect that such an amount had been duly paid in to the credit of the board.

Registration Fees.—A communication was received from the Crown Law Office in reply to a letter from the board on the matter of the raising the charge for registering pharmacists under the reciprocity agreement with Great Britain.

The Crown Law Department said that it was not lawful to charge fees higher than those authorised by the Pharmacy Act, but the Board could make a regulation on the matter of charging an extra fee for supervising examinations in country districts provided that such fee did not exceed one guinea. The only way to raise the registration fee was to amend the Act itself.

It was decided to frame a regulation so as to charge an extra fee for preliminary examinations in country towns.

University Lectures.—In reply to a letter from the board a letter was received from the University Registrar regarding the establishment of a Pharmacy College. The matter was still under consideration.

Mr. Short said that the reply was very disappointing. They had looked upon the matter as practically all arranged. Now it seemed that they were as far off as ever from attaining the object they desired.

Mr. Loney said that it was a case of "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick." He was afraid that it was the position of the Pharmacy Board with respect to the Final Examination that was the stumbling block. If the appointment of a Director of Pharmacy at the University was contingent upon their surrender of their powers under the Pharmacy Act, it would be well for them to very seriously consider their position. A discussion on this matter by a full Board was desirable.

Mr. Gray said that he was of the opinion that they should not let the control of the Qualifying examination go out of their hands. If it was impossible to make satisfactory arrangements with the University they would have to work out a scheme for themselves. But they must first of all see what the University would do, and if they could or would not do anything, they must set about doing something for themselves.

Mr. A. Forster (Registrar), pointed out that in other States the Government had given substantial help towards the establishment of a College of Pharmacy. This had been the case in Victoria and in Queensland. If they could go to the Government and show them what they had been doing for themselves, they would have a good case on which they could claim assistance. This would be better than saying "We want funds to establish a College of Pharmacy," before they had done anything in the matter of providing some assistance for their students in preparing them for the Final Examination. They could then point out that they wished to go further, and provide for them the educational facilities required for the whole of their professional education. If they went in a half hearted manner they would be more likely to fail.

Mr. Gray said that if a little State like Queensland, with a population of little more than Sydney alone, could provide a college for their pharmacy students, and that in a very creditable way, he thought that they ought to be able to do the same in Sydney.

Mr. Short suggested that this matter be a subject for special discussion at the next Board meeting, and in the meanwhile the University be informed of the Board's views in the matter.

Mr. Gray said that this matter affected the Society even more than the Board, and he would bring it up at the meeting of the Council.

Mr. Loney said that he thought they ought not to attempt to establish a School of Pharmacy until they were sure of their means. The establishment of such a School would be a constant drain on their resources, and this they could not stand without State assistance. In Great Britain, where the School of Pharmacy was a model for the rest of the Empire, the work had always entailed a heavy loss, and they could not expect to do better locally. They might provide instruction for the students in Pharmacy, but they would have to face the question of expense and be prepared to meet it. He could not see that the examination question would be an insurmountable one, and thought that a joint Board of Examiners might be appointed to conduct the Final Examination, and thus meet the wishes of the University, and at the same time comply with the Pharmacy Act. He thought that they must insist on the retention of their rights under the Act. The whole matter of pharmaceutical education in New South Wales had been unsatisfactory for years.

Mr. Gray said that he thought that they should make every effort to obtain the co-operation of the University before they took any steps in any other direction.

Mr. Ll. P. Williams thought that an interview with Professor Stuart would be far better than a lot of correspondence on the subject. If they attempted to found a School of Pharmacy they must be prepared to face a deficit every year, and before they started on any such a venture they must secure the promise of the Government of assistance, and until they got this they had no right to move in the matter. To do so would be a farce.

Mr. Short said that Victoria stood in a very different position. They had medical, and dental, and veterinary students, the fees from whom were a great assistance to them. They have also had very nice grants from the State from time to time. The whole matter was too serious to debate and decide offhand, and the Board should give it very serious thought before coming to any final decision.

After further discussion, in which all of the members of the Board took part, it was decided to place the matter on the business paper for the next meeting.

Pharmaceutical Defence Limited wrote pointing out that a certain grocer at Bondi was selling preparations of phenol and proprietary disinfectants contrary to the provisions of the Poisons Act, and asking that steps be taken to suppress this practice.

During the discussion which ensued it was stated that this was a common practice among grocers and was a public danger. It was decided to obtain samples by purchase and submit them to the Government Analyst for report. The offenders would be warned, and if they persisted in the practice would be prosecuted.

Missing Pharmacists.—The Registrar reported that according to instructions he had written to several pharmacists whose names were on the register, but of whose address he was not certain, and there were still twelve names on the register who could not be found by a registered letter to their last address. The following are the names:—M. J. Arneson, J. F. Armstrong, junr., J. Benson, Miss E. M. C. Burns, R. N. Collins, H. E. Elphick, W. H. Holden, J. F. Larkin, J. McKenna, G. W. Turner, C. J. Soden, and M. Graham.

The Registrar asked for further instructions on the matter. The law provided that a registered letter should again be sent, and if it failed to reach the addressee the name may be struck off the register. Such name could be restored on personal application to the Board.

The third letter was ordered to be forwarded, and the matter further reported to the Board.

Registration Under the Pharmacy Act.—Mr. D. M. Davidson, of Longueville, a pharmaceutical chemist of Queensland, applied for registration,

which was granted. He also applied for a pharmacist's poisons license, which was also granted.

Annual Poisons Licenses.—Five storekeepers in remote country districts applied for annual poisons licenses, which were granted.

Registration of Indentures.—M. A. Barnes to A. Rogers of Leichardt, term 3 years. Registration ordered.

Charles R. Smith submitted his Intermediate Examination pass, and asked for its acceptance in lieu of preliminary examination. The matter was referred to the preliminary examiner.

Election of New Member.—The Registrar reported that there was a vacancy on the board which had been allowed to stand over from former meetings. Mr. A. E. Sharpe was elected to fill the vacancy.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The monthly meeting of Council was held on September 9th. The chair was occupied by Mr. F. P. J. Gray (President), and there were also present Messrs. T. S. Loney, W. Short, A. E. Sharps, Ll. P. Williams, and E. C. Schofield.

New Member.—Mr. Joseph V. Phillips, of Cobar, applied for admission as a member, and a ballot being taken, was declared elected.

Applications for diploma were received from J. V. Phillips and S. C. Cunninghame, and were granted.

The Black List.—A letter was received from Messrs. Sly and Russell in reply to certain questions asked by the Council regarding the legality of issuing a list in which the chemists were asked not to stock or sell certain articles named in such list on the ground that they did not carry a sufficient margin of profit to make it worth while a chemist handling the lines.

Counsel's opinion was that it was perfectly lawful for such a list to be issued, and submitted a draft of a circular which would cover all the requirements of chemists and yet be quite within their legal rights. Mr. Loney pointed out that they would have to be very careful to verify their statements in any circular. What was stated must be true. Mr. Gray said that a line which did not carry a profit of 20 to 25 per cent was not worth while handling in many instances. Chemists were under very heavy expense in the upkeep of their establishments. No article should be black listed until the committee had exhausted every means to induce the manufacturers to come in and co-operate with the chemist. Locally made articles were easily dealt with, but it was the articles coming from abroad where the trouble occurred. The general opinion of the council was that any article which cannot be handled with a profit should be boycotted.

Vacancy on Council.—The secretary reported that there was still a vacancy on the Council. Several names were mentioned, and finally it was resolved that a certain well-known pharmacist should be asked to accept the vacant seat. The election was allowed to stand over until next meeting.

Early Closing Bill.—The president reported that on September 8th a deputation waited on Mr. McGowen regarding the Early Closing Bill. The Minister did not give them very much satisfaction. He said that the Parliament was just dying, and that probably nothing further could be done this session. He advised the deputation to see the Government Representative in the Upper House, and see if he could do anything for them.

Mr. Williams said that they would have to be on their guard, as it was quite possible that this Act might be rushed through and snapped on them. They were generally agreed that 8 o'clock would suit the majority of the chemists best.

The Insurance Act.—The Secretary laid on the table a pile of literature on National Insurance as carried out in England, and asked the members of Council if they would digest the same in turn.

Mr. Loney said that this was a matter they should not lose sight of, as it was bound to come sooner or later in Australia, and they could not be too well prepared for it when it did come. The Act in England had placed the chemist in a position which he had never occupied before. It was their duty to conserve the interests of pharmacists by every means within their power, and they would have to meet the measure in a conciliatory spirit.

Mr. Gray said that when the Act was brought into force it would be the death of the patent medicine trade. If pharmacists show a united front they would get more than if they acted independently.

Mr. Loney said that pharmacists should remember that the doctor would have a free hand, and there should be no using stock mixtures, as was the case at the present time. He was opposed to a per capita rate.

No resolution was passed on the matter, but the members of council agreed to make a study of the whole matter.

Pharmaceutical Education.—Mr. Gray brought up the matter of pharmaceutical education. He said that the matter had been discussed at the Board of Pharmacy meeting, but it really was a question which more vitally affected the Society. In his opinion it was of paramount importance; he could speak from experience of the University lectures. He considered that they had every cause for dissatisfaction. He instanced the Botany course. This blocked the way with many of the pharmacy students. Many of them failed time after time, some 3 times and some 10 times, and when it was all over the botany they learned was of little practical use to them. He would try and get this matter put on a proper basis during his term of office as President, and he would not have done his duty to the rising generation if he neglected it. If the Universty refused to take the matter up, the only course open to them was to see what could otherwise be done. Before next meeting he would make it his business to see Professor Anderson Stuart and try to get something definite from him concerning the matter. He would report what success attended his efforts at their next meeting.

Mr. Loney said the matter had been discussed pretty thoroughly at the Board meeting. He thought it a good idea to wait upon Professor Anderson Stuart, as the mater seemed to rest largely in his hands. He thought that they might arrange with the University for the Final Examination to be conducted by a conjoint board if this was the stumbling block. But they must protest against the idea that a qualifying examination for pharmacists could ever be conducted other than by pharmacists.

Mr. Gray said he would convey the views of the Board and Council to Professor Stuart when he had an interview.

Mr. Williams.—But it is understood that you will not bind the Board or the Council to any course without first submitting the matter to the Board and Council.

Representation on British Pharmacopoeia Revision Committee.—This matter was mentioned and briefly discussed. A fuller discussion was decided upon at a later date.

DOCTORS AT LAW.

A strange case of two doctors at law was recently heard before Mr. Justice Sly at the Supreme Court, Sydney. Dr. G. C. Harper, of Temora, entered an action against Dr. R. G. Cookson, of the same town, to recover £5000 damages for allegel libel. The two doctors have been practising in the same town for many years past, but fell out over the attendance on a certain patient. As a result Dr. Cookson wrote a letter of complaint to Dr. Stoker, secretary of the Southern District Medical Association, in which he charged Dr. Harper of employing an unqualified assistant to administer chloroform; he also said that Dr. Harper ran a private hospital under a nurse's name, and that he advertised extensively. At the time of writing the alleged libel Dr. Cookson was leaving the town altogether. Plaintiff claimed that the statements were absolutely false.

Mr. Justice Sly said that he thought that the communication was privileged, but this depended upon the presence or absence of malice. The jury took the view that the letter was written through ill-will, and awarded plaintiff a verdict for £50.

TABLOIDS MISTAKEN FOR LOLLIES.

A sad death is reported from Junee district. It appears that Murray Scott, of Dernasser Station, was using tabloids for photographic purposes, and placed them in a tin on a shelf. His daughter, a few years old, took the tin, and mistaking the tabloids for lollies, ate several before the mistake was discovered. Emetics were administered, but the child died within half an hour.

ROBBERIES AT CHEMISTS' SHOPS.

Two chemists' shops in prominent streets in Sydney were operated upon by burglars on the morning of 3rd September. The establishment of W. S. Park and Son was first visited between two and three o'clock in t.. watchman passed and found had not gone very far when he he.. of breaking glass, and, returning, found ..e glass panel of the door had been broken with a half brick. The would-be burglars promptly escaped, but without any plunder, as when Mr. Park arrived he found nothing missing The second case was an attempt made on the pharmacy of Mr. Purdie in Phillip-street on the same morning. About 6 o'clock the caretaker of the Club Chambers found everything all right, but going upstairs he heard the sound of breaking glass, but it was so indistinct that he could not locate it. About 7 o'clock he discovered that the glass door of the pharmacy had been broken and the thieves had ransacked the place, though with very little profit to themselves. They broke open the cash register and secured about two shillings in coppers. It is probable that the same man or men were concerned in both attempts, as the jobs were of the same pattern.

Not long since the pharmacy of Mr. E. L. Mathew, of Manly, was broken into. The thief got in by the back door, and got away with the cash box. In this was a small sum belonging really to the local hospital, as Mr. Mathew gives the takings of his weighing machine to that institution. There was also some valuable deeds and other private papers in the box. A few days after the thief returned by post all the papers, but he kept the cash.

QUARANTINE DANGERS.

For many years past the residents of Manly have protested against the retention of Sydney North Head as the Quarantine station, but hitherto no notice has been taken of the very just cause of complaint. On many occasions when an outbreak of quarantinable disease has broken out on board a vessel coming from the Far East, though the outbreak has been discovered before the ship arrived at Thursday Island, the whole of the patients have been sent on to Sydney Quarantine ground. This is manifestly unfair to Sydney, as the risk of the outbreak spreading to a large number of people is increased by conveying all the diseased persons so near to a large centre.

On September 6th five patients suffering from smallpox escaped from quarantine and went into Manly, making sundry purchases from the shops and probably carrying infection through the settlement. They were at large for about a couple of hours on a Saturday night, and all were in a state to convey contagion. The penalty is up to £100, and up to imprisonment for two years. Probably the patients did not think of this when they broke out, but they are now under arrest and in due course will be tried for the offence. The grounds are strongly walled, and it is rather a mystery how these men effected their escape, but such an event was not anticipated, and the neglect is due to the Federal Quarantine officers to render such an escape impossible. No responsibility rests either on the local Health Department or the local police force.

Manly people will be lucky if they escape a bad outbreak, and all local business is sure to

suffer. But if the outcome is that the Quarantine Grounds are abolished from the district it will not be an unmixed blessing, as from North Head there is to be obtained the finest views up Sydney Harbour, and it will form one of the best reserves anywhere round the city.

GENERAL.

Mr. William Cullen Ward, accountant, died at his late residence, Birrell-street, Waverley, on September 6th, after a short illness. The deceased gentleman was originally intended for the medical profession, and passed the entrance examination of the Royal College of Surgeons in 1872, but afterwards took to accountancy as a profession, and for many years past has been auditor for Messrs. Elliott Brothers Limited. The deceased gentleman occupied many positions of honour and responsibility in Sydney, and was very highly esteemed, both in his professional capacity and for his kindly, genial disposition. His death is deeply regretted by a very wide circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Cullen Ward was a Londoner by birth and came to Australia in 1883.

Mr. G. A. Ward, pharmacist, late of Cowper-street, Waverley, died on September 5th, aged 49. Mr. Ward was in business at Waverley for the past 22 years; the cause of death was pneumonia. The deceased gentleman was very well known, and took a great interest in pharmaceutical matters affecting those in business in the Eastern Suburbs.

Mr. F. Sinclair has bought the pharmacy of Mr. S. H. Evans, of Lindfield. Mr. Evans was formerly in business at Cessnock, and only recently bought out Mr. McCredie, of Lindfield. Rumour says that he is sorry that he left Cessnock.

Miss E. A. Lazarus, secretary to P.D.L., of New South Wales, appears to be giving every satisfaction to the Directors. There is a decided advantage in having a lady secretary in some cases. She does not know too much, and is satisfied to carry out the wishes of her employers. Some secretaries wish to run the whole show. This is very excellent when they are capable, but to get a really capable secretary is by no means an easy task, and the right man was not offering in Sydney. In this respect Melbourne has had great good luck.

The Dental Board.—In the Legislative Assembly, on September 18th, Mr. Levy gave notice to move for the appointment of a select committee to report upon the administration of the Dentists Act by the Dental Board.

Messrs. Reid and Campbell, the Australian representatives of the Aerators' Ltd., are starting their Summer advertising campaign, bringing the "Sparklet" goods prominently before the public.

Queensland.

Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held at Brisbane on August 13.

Present.—Mr. G. J. Mackay (President); Messrs. J. W. Case, A. B. Chater, T. F. Hall, J. P. Davies, R. Lenehan, R. C. Rutter, F. W. Simmonds, and Geo. Watkins.

Correspondence.—From Mr. C. L. Butchers, dealing with bactericidal co-efficient of Liquor Cresolis, with National Insurance, and with the P.D.L.

Mr. J. H. Young, stating that the South Australian Council approved of a "tariff" rate for dispensing under a National Insurance Policy.

Mr. J. Reid, Tasmania, intimating that his Society also approved of a "tariff" rate.

Mr. E. Mayhew, W.A., saying that in his State they advocated a uniform price per prescription as involving the minimum amount of trouble.

Mr. W. G. Piper seeking information on several matters in connection with National Insurance.

Election.—Mr. T. A. Graham, of Barcaldine, was elected a member.

Financial.—The Treasurer's statement for the month of July was laid on the table. It showed a very satisfactory financial position.

Price Cutting.—The attention of the Secretary had been called to a grocer's price list which showed in several cases a serious departure from protected prices. On the Secretary interviewing the proprietor, he was assured that the cut-prices would be discontinued.

The Council met again at the termination of the annual meeting.

The Secretary took the chair and called for nominations for President.

Mr. J. Lunn proposed, and Mr. Rutter seconded, the nomination of Mr. J. W. Case. This nomination was supported by almost every Councillor present. There being no other nomination, Mr. Case was duly elected and inducted into the chair.

Vice-President.—Mr. R. C. Rutter was re-elected.

Treasurer.—Mr. R. Lenehan was re-elected.

Secretary.—Mr. R. C. Cowley was re-elected.

Council Vacancy.—On the proposition of the President, seconded by Mr. Davies, Mr. F. W. Simmonds was co-opted to fill the vacancy on the Council.

College Committee.—The following were elected as the Society's representatives:—Messrs. J. W. Case, J. P. Davies, J. Lunn, and G. Watkins.

Travelling Expenses of Country Councillors.—It was decided to pay the railway fare of all Councillors residing 10 miles from town (Brisbane).

THE 23rd ANNUAL MEETING.

The 23rd annual meeting of the Society was held on August 13.

The retiring President, Mr. G. J. Mackay, occupied the chair. The attendance was small, and

included Messrs. R. Lenehan (Treasurer), Reg. C. Rutter (Vice-President), R. C. Cowley (Secretary), J. W. Case, W. J. Costin, G. Watkins, F. W. Simmonds, J. W. Ward, A. B. Chater, W. A. Noble, J. Lunn, T. F. Hall, J. P. Davies, R. C. Park, J. Daley, T. J. F. Costin, and M. J. B. Martin.

Presidential Address.—Mr. Mackay delivered the following address:—

This, as most of you are aware, is the first annual meeting of the Society since incorporation. The annual report of the Council and the balance-sheet are in the hands of members, who should feel gratified at the position of the Society, both numerically and financially.

Never in the history of pharmacy in Queensland have so many important issues been crowded into one year. These have all demanded and received much watchful attention from your Council. Here let me say that I am rather afraid that the average member cannot realise the large amount of work which devolves upon the Councillors. Take for example the Health Act with its harassing regulations. The amount of work that was put in by way of securing the best possible position for pharmacists was enormous. Early Closing, Pharmaceutical Defence, National Insurance, Opium Regulations, and the position of pharmacists in the military forces are some of the matters which have entailed much time and worry, not only at Council meetings, but between them as well. Ministers, Under-Secretaries, Commissioners, and other officials and dignitaries have been interviewed *ad nauseam*. It is gratifying, however, that in most cases our efforts have met with success.

As far as fresh pharmacy legislation is concerned, matters are just where they were at this time last year. The Home Secretary has a Bill drafted which will meet all the wishes of members, but we still hear the old cry of pressure of more important business. I can assure you that it is not for want of urging that the Government has not introduced the measure. We must not be disheartened, but keep pegging away until we achieve success.

Although no official announcement has been made, we have every reason to believe that the harassing regulations of the Health Act relating to foods and drugs, will be replaced at an early date by others more reasonable, especially in the matter of labelling and declaration of constituents. The thanks of the Society are due to the Health Commissioner, Dr. Elkington, the Government Analyst, Mr. J. B. Henderson, and the Commercial Representative, Mr. Stafford, all of whom supported the claims of pharmacy, and took a sympathetic view of the manner in which the regulations affected the business and status of pharmacists.

With regard to the regulations affecting the treatment of enthetic diseases, I do not intend to express any opinion, but I insist that if the regulations are to be enforced in the case of pharmacists, they should be enforced with still greater stringency in the case of the numerous quacks who are still carrying on prescribing with little attempt at concealment.

The question of National Insurance is one which will assume a vital aspect in a very short time; both parties [illegible] pledged to its [illegible] followed this move[illegible] oth[illegible] world closely, and M[illegible]ase a commissioner to report on its c[illegible] England. He has submitted two compre[illegible]sive reports, which have been published in the official organ. It has been said by some of our members that it is premature to discuss this matter until the necessity actually arises, but it is this very unpreparedness which has been the curse of pharmacy in the past. It is only by being familiar with all the aspects of the case that we can hope to deal with it successfully should necessity arise.

The question of Parmaceutical Defence has been dealt with in a satisfactory manner, which, while it differs from that in operation in the other States, is probably more efficient, and less expensive in working.

Each year there appears to be a more friendly spirit developing between the societies and boards in the various States. This fraternal feeling was especially manifest at the meeting of the Australasian Pharmaceutical Conference, held in Melbourne in January. Queensland was well represented at that conference, and its representatives were treated most hospitably by the Victorian Society. Apart from the reading of papers of scientific and pharmaceutic interest, many matters of importance to the practice of pharmacy were discussed.

The scope of reciprocity in the acceptance of certificates is gradually widening. New Zealand now accepting the Queensland diploma. It is a matter of personal gratification to me that the first pharmacist to be admitted in the Dominion on an Australian qualification was an old apprentice of mine, Mr. L. W. Hudson.

There is a matter which is exercising the minds of many pharmacists in Queensland to-day—I refer to the scarcity of apprentices. Each year the number of applicants for apprenticeship in the cities decreases. This I look upon as very unfortunate for the craft, as it is better for us to train our own men than to depend on other States or the Old World for them. It is only a very few years ago that Mr. James Wilkinson deplored the number of apprentices who were being articled, and made the suggestion that the number should be limited by regulation. The swing of the pendulum has, however, automatically settled the question of over-production. With the existing hours of employment and rate of remuneration, it is difficult to understand why more youths are not entering the business. The same condition appears, however, to exist in other parts of the world.

You will be asked to-day to agree to a resolution to the effect that the control of the Benevolent Fund be transferred to the Council of the Society. Previously it was vested in trustees nominated by the subscribers, but since incorporation nothing has been done to place the administration of the fund on a more workable basis. The Benevolent Fund increases very slowly, one reason, doubtless, being that members feel that the risk of any considerable call being made upon it is remote. We must, however, provide for the future. Times are prosperous now, but none of us know what is in store. I would sug-

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The Company has secured the services of **Alfred E. Druitt** as **General Manager** for a period of years. Mr. Druitt has had a wide and successful experience in insurance work, and under his management the Company's business should quickly develope.

The Provisional Secretaries, Mr. H. P. Ogilvie, A.I.A.V., and Mr. John H. King, are both men who will be of material and valuable assistance in the interests of the Company.

OBJECTS OF THE COMPANY.

The Company is being formed to transact all classes of Insurance Business, except Life Insurance.

The establishment of a local office in each State is a very valuable factor, and the Prospectus will be found to contain the full details of the method to be followed, which, briefly, provides for the establishment of a Head Office Board in each State, with complete powers, backed up by the security of the total funds of Amalgamated Insurance (Australia) Limited.

Applications and Deposits for Shares may be lodged at the office of the Company, **47 Queen Street, Melbourne;** 352 Collins Street, Melbourne; or with the Company's Bankers, or through any Registered Member of the Stock Exchange.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To **Amalgamated Insurance (Australia) Limited, 47 Queen Street, Melbourne.**

I request that you allot me.....shares of 5/- each in the abovenamed company, and I enclose the sum of £..... . . , being 2/6 per share, payable on application, and I undertake to pay a further sum of 2/6 per share on allotment.

I agree to accept the said shares, or any less number that may be allotted to me, and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of the Company in respect of the shares allotted to me, and I agree to be bound by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company.

Dated this..... .... day of..... ....1913.

Name in full..... ....
Address ....
Occupation..... ....
Usual signature..... ....

Copies of the Full Prospectus will be sent on application. The Subscription List will close in a very few days, and applications should be promptly lodged.

NOTICE.

With a view to increasing the profits of the Trade on the sale of "Sparklets," the retail prices have been altered as follows:—

C. Syphons, 6/6 ea. C. Bulbs, 2/6 doz.
B. Syphons, 4/- ea. B. Bulbs, 1/8 doz.

Special priced show-cards have been prepared to facilitate the change, and will be supplied by your wholesale house on application.

Free Syphon Offer.—Your profits on the sale of Syphons can be still further increased by taking advantage of this offer. Until further notice your wholesaler will send you one Syphon free of charge with every dozen ordered for delivery in one lot. ¶ Every Syphon you sell creates a demand for bulbs which is a permanent source of easy money.

It will pay you to push "Sparklets" this season. There is now a good profit on all lines, and you can buy thirteen syphons at the price of twelve.

Drop a line to your wholesalers.

READ & CAMPBELL LTD.,

40 PITT STREET, SYDNEY.

THE

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF AUSTRALIA LTD.

For Ordinary and Industrial Life Insurance.

Head Office: 41 QUEEN STREET, MELBOURNE

DIRECTORS—Sir Henry Weedon, K.B., Chairman; Hon. Wm. Angliss, M.L.C.; E. C. Dyason, Esq.; Robt. Ramsay, Esq.; Hon. R. A. Crouch.

CHEMISTS can obtain Special Concessions as regards their Life Assurance by placing their business through the Authorised Agents of the Company—

THE PHARMACEUTICAL DEFENCE LIMITED,

360 SWANSTON STREET, MELBOURNE.

TWO SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE L.C.A. POLICIES.

PERMANENT TOTAL DISABLEMENT.—A special concession is made to holders of any L.C.A. Policy carrying a death risk by which the full sum assured is payable in the event of the Life Assured becoming PERMANENTLY DISABLED BY ACCIDENT, by the loss of two limbs or two eyes, or one limb and one eye. In the event of the Life Assured losing one limb or one eye by accident, the L.C.A. will IMMEDIATELY pay one-fourth of the sum assured, and a proportionate abatement will be made in future premiums.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT.—The L.C.A. also gives a further most important concession to holders of Policies involving a death risk. The fees usually paid will be defrayed by the Company in any case, approved by a Company's Medical Officer, of a Policy-holder requiring and receiving hospital treatment in any public hospital in Australia. There is no charge whatever for this concession, which is an ADDITIONAL BENEFIT given to the actual Life Assured.

HOUSE PURCHASE CONTRACTS.—Particulars of an attractive scheme, combining the benefits of Life Assurance with the principle of House Purchase by easy payments, are given in a pamphlet which will be forwarded to any address on application.

GET AN UP-TO-DATE CONTRACT IN AN UP-TO-DATE AUSTRALIAN COMPANY.

Write for a Copy of our Full Prospectus.

Head Offce: 41 QUEEN ST., MELBOURNE. CHAS. G. WATSON, General Manager.

P.D.L. MEMBERS TEAR THIS OFF AND POST TO

THE MANAGER.

THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED,

41 QUEEN STREET, MELBOURNE.

Dear Sir,—I should be glad if you would instruct your representative to call upon me relative to Life Insurance.

Name.. .....

Age next Birthday..... Occupation ....

Amount..... Address..... .....

It Pays you to Sell

GREATHEAD'S MIXTURE

WHOLESALE PRICE LIST.

1 Dozen	and under	12 Dozen	...	15s. 0d.	per	Dozen.
12 ,,	,,	30 ,,	...	14s. 3d.	,,	
30 ,,	,,	60 ,,	...	13s. 6d.	,,	
60 ,,	and over	... ...	...	12s. 9d.	,,	

Minimum Retail Price strictly maintained at 1s. 6d. per bottle.

Goods delivered free in Melbourne and Suburbs.
Country Orders F.O.B. Melbourne.
2½ per cent. discount for cash within thirty days of delivery.

Orders sent to **TWENTIETH CENTURY MANUFACTURING AND AGENCY COMPANY PTY. LTD., 495 Collins St., Melbourne,** will receive immediate attention.

N.B.—As the rights for New South Wales belong to a different proprietary, the Mixture supplied by the Company may not be sold in or sent into New South Wales, but may be sold in or sent into any other State. We, however, act as agents for the Proprietors of the Mixture for New South Wales, and will quote prices for and supply such Mixture on application.

GREATOIDS

The Small but Great Pill for

Torpid Liver, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Headache, Costiveness, Biliousness, Worms.

A SCIENTIFICALLY PREPARED PILL.

WHOLESALE PRICE LIST.	1 dozen and under 12 doz., 15/- per doz.				
	12 ,, ,, 30 ,,	15/-	,,	less 10	per cent.
	30 ,, and over ...	15/-	,,	,, 15	,,

Minimum Retail Price strictly maintained at 1/6 per package.
2½% discount for cash within 30 days of delivery.
Goods Delivered Free in Melbourne and Suburbs and the Country.

Orders sent to

Twentieth Century Manufacturing & Agency Co. Pty. Ltd.,

495 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE.

Will receive immediate attention.

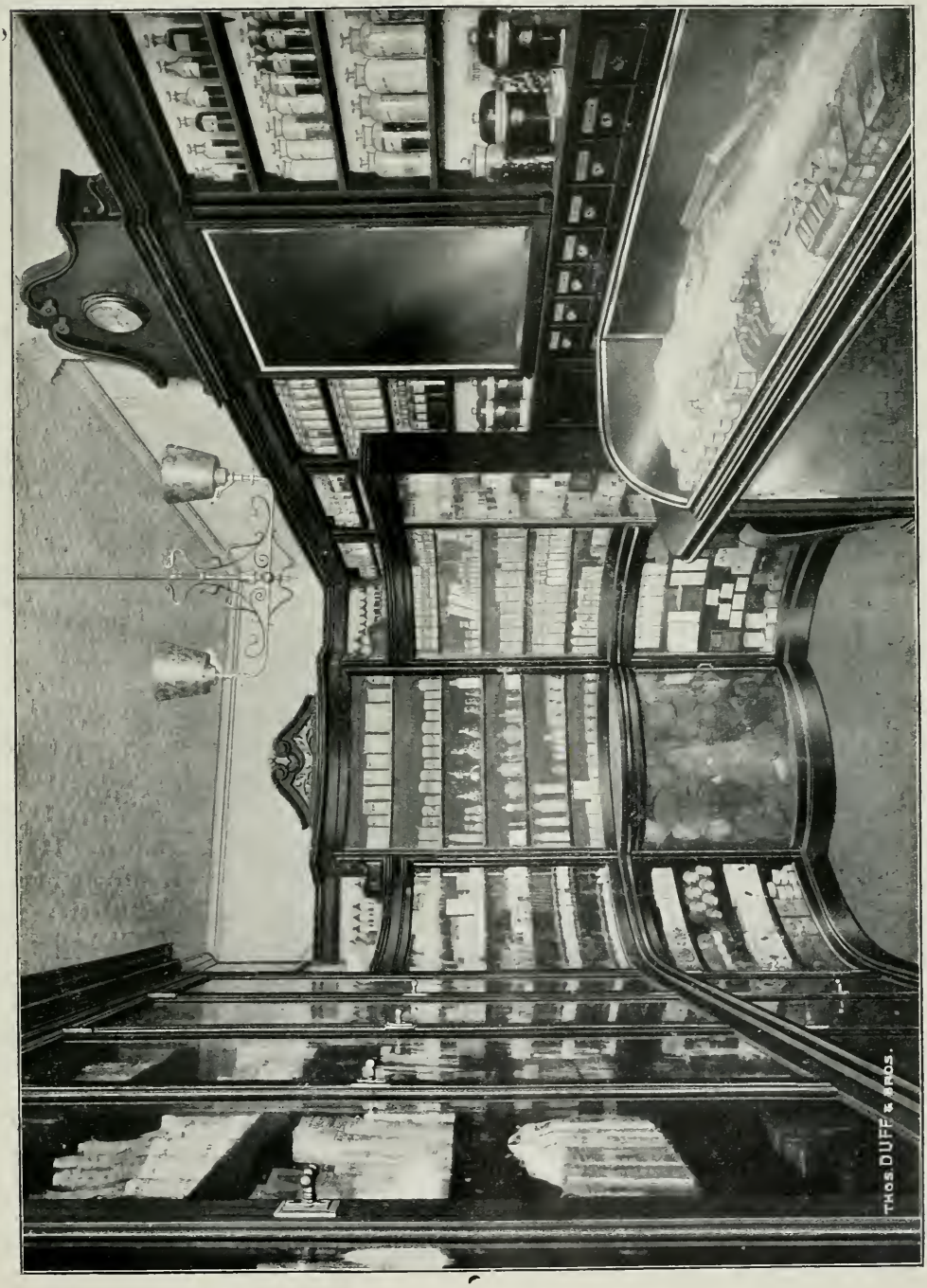
THOS. DUFF & BROS., SHOP FITTERS,

PTY. LTD.

Show Case Makers and Shop Front Builders,

396-400 SWANSTON STREET (NORTH END), MELBOURNE.

TELEPHONE 3199.



Interior of Shop fitted up by us for Mr. Bendallack.

WE ARE BORN TO OFFER BENEFITS

THE

INSURANCE OFFICE

OF

AUSTRALIA LTD.

THE.....

I.O.A.

Fire. Accident. Marine. Live Stock.

HEAD OFFICE FOR VICTORIA:

37 QUEEN ST., MELBOURNE.

W. R. CAVE, MANAGER.

SUPPORT THE AUSTRALIAN COMPANY

Agents: THE PHARMACEUTICAL DEFENCE LIMITED,

360 SWANSTON STREET, MELBOURNE.

CHEMISTS' INDEMNITY POLICIES A SPECIALITY.

The I.O.A. Policies are accepted by the Savings Banks.

BRANCHES:

Sydney (H.O.), Brisbane, Perth, Rockhampton, Ballarat (Vic).
Melbourne, Adelaide, Tasmania, Townsville, Geelong (Vic.)

gest that now the finances of the Society are upon a sound footing, an annual grant should be made to the Benevolent Fund. Such grants are especially provided for in the charter of the Society.

This, gentlemen, is the third successive year during which I have held office as President of the Society. I am not a candidate for re-election. Before my retirement, I must express my wholehearted appreciation of the loyal manner in which the Council, officers, and members of the Society have supported me in my actions and assisted me in my duties. I trust that the same loyalty and assistance will be afforded to my successor.

The Annual Report, which had been distributed to the members, was then laid open for discussion, after the President had moved its adoption.

Mr. J. W. Ward, in seconding the adoption of the report, referred to the frequent promises that had been made by different Home Secretaries, and now they found themselves as far off as ever from an amending bill. He referred to the regulations dealing with enthetic diseases, and said he could not help but think that sufferers were little better treated, if any, by medical men than they were by chemists. They could not overlook the pounds, shillings and pence side of the question from the chemist's point of view. He thought that the regulations would induce much self drugging, and quacks were benefited by the regulations which stopped chemists prescribing.

He referred to the Wages Board award, and said that the 8 o'clock closing had been a boon to chemists. Now that Drysdales Ltd. was working so well, he did not see why the hours of opening shops should not be still further reduced. (Mr. Martin: Make it 6 o'clock!) Reduction of hours would probably mean a bigger loss to his own firm than to any firm in Brisbane. He would ask the President, as chairman of Drysdales Ltd., to say what proportion of prescriptions that came in after hours were really urgent. He would also advocate higher prices for dispensing after closing hours, since he thought that many of them were due to procrastination. He referred to the attendance at the Council meetings, which, he said, was unsatisfactory in several cases. He was pleased to find the Society in such a flourishing condition.

Mr. W. J. Costin also referred in strong terms to the treatment meted out by the Government in not introducing an amending bill. He sought information from the President as to when the new regulations under the Health Act were likely to be issued. Those existing at present were unnecessarily harassing, and he knew of firms who were ignoring them.

Mr. J. W. Case said that no one was more surprised than the President and Secretary when they found that no Pharmacy Bill was included in the Government programme this session, and certainly it was due to no fault of theirs. Chemists were not strong enough to affect the voting in the State. He spoke strongly on the apathy of chemists. He said that in an age of industrial and domestic legislation, with an important bill looming ahead, it behoved them to wake up or suffer. This was an age of unions, associations, and combinations for protective purposes. Associations for trade purposes were both laudable and necessary. Year after year, not in one State, but in every State of the Commonwealth, the Councils of the Pharmaceutical Societies invited non-members to join the Society, and as often these people decline. We constantly hear the remark: "What has the Society done for me?" Let us reverse the question and ask: "What have you done for the Society?"

Mr. Case went on to say that the building up of the Society was absolutely necessary for dealing with momentous questions such as loomed ahead, and he spoke strongly on the lethargy of members who were indifferent to the doings of their craft's Society, refusing to criticise, condemn, or praise, notwithstanding they received their journals regularly.

Payment of Country Members of the Council.—Mr. Case made out a strong case for payment of country members of the Council, and recommended the new Council to consider it. Mr. Lunn said that he was a country Councillor—he did not look for payment. He had not attended several meetings simply because of the difficulty in arranging for relief.

The President, in reply, said that he objected to the suggestion that they would only give their votes to candidates for Parliament who promised to give them their support. A suggestion had been made that the Board should resign *en bloc* if their requests were not acceded to, and thus hamper the Government. He preferred, however, to stick to the devil he knew rather than the one he didn't know. In reply to Mr. Costin's query, he said he had no information as to the nature of the new regulations under the Health Act or the date of their publication, but that certain information had leaked out to the effect that chemists' rights would be conserved to them. The report of the Melbourne meeting would be made to the Commonwealth Parliament and by State Representatives to the State Parliaments, and he thought that this would result in a short amending bill to rectify the deficiencies in the present Act. With regard to the hours of labour, he, as a masters' representative on the Chemists Assistants' Wages Board, had been guided by the wishes of employers. He would not attempt to define what urgency in prescriptions was. He was prepared to accept the definitions of the public, and would acknowledge any prescription as urgent if the person for whom it was written considered it urgent.

Hospital abuses had been mentioned in the report, and Mr. Hall had that morning shown him an Ipswich paper in which was pictured the matron of an Ipswich hospital dispensing medicines with no indication whatsoever of medical supervision.

Friendly Societies' Bill.—He observed that this Bill had passed the Upper House, but neither the Secretary nor himself were able to see that chemists' interests were in any way prejudiced by the measure.

Country Councillors' expenses in attending meetings, he thought, should certainly be paid; he would go so far as to say that all Councillors should be paid.

Financial Statement.—The adoption of the Financial Statement was moved by the Treasurer,

Mr. Robert Lenehan, who made a statement explaining the special expenses and receipts. He spoke strongly on the benevolence of chemists, remarking that it did them very little credit. He would see that, if he were re-elected Treasurer, a very strong appeal would be sent out during the year. He pointed out that, notwithstanding increased expenditure, the funds of the Society were in a better condition than they had ever been.

Mr. W. J. Costin, in seconding the adoption of the Financial Statement, said that the salary of the Secretary should be increased. This was supported by Mr. G. Watkins, and a recommendation was made to the Council to this effect.

Mr. G. Watkins, local representative of the Shillinglaw Fund, made a statement of the amount collected, and said that he had expected to receive a better response to the appeal.

On the chairman putting the motion for adoption of the Financial Statement to the meeting, it was carried.

General National Insurance (Medical Benefits).—The chairman said he would like to hear opinions on this subject for the future guidance of the Council. They had all read the statements of the Prime Minister as reported in this morning's papers. A Royal Commission would be appointed, and strong representations should be made for the inclusion of a pharmaceutical representative on the Commission.

Mr. Case said he had dealt very fully with it in the two reports he had made to the Council on the working of the Act in England. He said that in fixing tariff prices the chemist on the local committee would have very little to do with it, since he would only be one of a number, and it would depend on what his colleagues would consider a fair thing. Chemists' profits were usually regarded as high, but they were low in comparison with drapers', whose profits ranged from 5 per cent. to 300 per cent. Chemists were not obliged to go on the Panel in England.

Mr. Lunn spoke on the relative merits of a "tariff" and "per capita" charge, and decided against the latter. The "tariff" which allowed them a 25 per cent. profit on a wholesale price list usually would represent less than 20 per cent., owing to the various charges added. Twenty per cent. would not represent a fair profit, and expenses could not be paid on less than 30 per cent. They must not be led away by statements in price lists regarding profits allowed. In England the so-called floating sixpence had produced complications between doctor and chemist. It was intended to economise prescribing, but it was a petty way of reducing prices. A charge of one penny had been allowed in some cases for copying, but this had been deducted in others. It would be unreasonable for the Government to allow for containers, as these were an asset to the assured, and they in Australia must devise some means of preventing the cost falling on the chemist. The dispensing fee of 2d. will not pay here, and he would suggest 6d. at least. Chemists must give thought to it, and they must consider the average value of time of an assistant and what represents a fair profit. They must remember that a log wage of 1/6 may mean a cost of 2/- to the management.

Friendly societies were conservative in the disbursement of their funds. They would accept only healthy members, and thus a very deserving class was excluded from participating in medical benefits. These, however, would be a charge on the Government.

Mr. W. J. Costin thought they could not live by it, but they must be prepared for emergencies.

Mr. Simmonds said he would strongly object to treatment meted out by some committees in England of docking 10 per cent. of the chemist's account when they found themselves short of funds.

The President proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Case for the excellent reports on Medical Benefits which he had made to the Council. This was seconded by Mr. Lunn, and carried with acclamation.

Election of Auditors.—Mr. Case proposed, and Mr. Chater seconded, that Messrs. J. C. Ward and W. J. Costin should be re-appointed auditors.

Business Committee.—The former Business Committee was re-appointed, viz.:—Messrs. A. B. Chater, G. J. Mackay, G. W. Marshall, G. W. Ward, R. Lenehan, W. A. McGuffie, R. C. Park, and J. W. Case.

Insurance in I.O.A.—Mr. R. C. Park reported, through Mr. J. W. Case, that through an error in dispensing for a dog powder nux vomica had been used instead of nux areca. A claim was made against him, which he settled for two guineas. He had made a claim on the I.O.A., and in reply was told that the terms of his policy provided for injury or death to any person not being a person in the employ of the insured, and, as a consequence, the case under review is not a loss within the meaning of the policy. He had not carefully reviewed the policy, and had he done so he would have probably overlooked this. He was quite under the impression that his policy covered all errors in dispensing.

The President said that Mr. Park had made the mistake of settling the claim before approaching the insurance company, and that if he had done otherwise he thought the claim would have been met. (The claim has since been met).

Votes of thanks were passed to the President and Council, to the Auditors, and to the Press, both trade and local.

General News.

Mr. D. J. Clarke, of Brisbane, has taken possession of the handsome new premises in the City Building, Edward-street, where he has fitted up a pharmacy replete with every convenience, and a great credit to the Northern State.

Mr. Thomas Parker, an old Queensland identity, died at George Town, on August 16. He came to Victoria in the early fifties, and his adventurous disposition led him to follow the many gold rushes which caused such excitement in those roaring days. Wherever he went he practised his pharmaceutical calling. Time found him at Clunes, Mt. Korong, McIvor, Pleasant Creek,

Back Creek, Yandoit, and then saw him settled down in a drug store at Wood's Point. This was too quiet for him, so he went to New Zealand, then to North Queensland, and afterwards to Fiji, where, at Levuka, he unfurled his pharmaceutical tent and did a large business in medicine chests and island products. Mr. Parker tired of Fiji, went to Victoria, where he was in business for a time. Then he packed up his belongings again and settled at Etheridge, North Queensland, where he opened a pharmacy, and with one or two trips to the Old Country interspersed, he remained in business there until shortly before his death, at the age of 80 years. His brother, Mr. Arthur Parker, who is a registered chemist, survives him. He lives at Footscray, Victoria.

Venereal Diseases.

The Department of Public Health, Queensland, has widely circulated the following pamphlet. Pharmacists are co-operating in its distribution:—

Venereal disease is neither a crime nor a punishment. Those who are so unfortunate as to contract it must carefully avoid all risk of infecting others. They should endeavour, by obtaining and following proper medical advice, to regain their health.

A person infected with any venereal disease should never trust his health to patent medicines or any advertised treatment. He should seek proper medical advice at once, and follow it.

If not properly treated, venereal disease is very likely to lead to dangerous and painful illness, and perhaps to the death of the sufferer. Those who knowingly infect others with any venereal disease are liable to punishment.

Free treatment for either sex can be obtained without any need to give name, address, or other details, and under conditions of complete secrecy, on personal application to the Government Dispensary for Enthetic Diseases, at the Outpatient Department of the General Hospital, Brisbane.

Syphilis.—1. Syphilis is a disease which is curable in the early stages; if hospital treatment is undergone, it may be cured in a shorter time than is otherwise possible. As a rule, it requires a long course of treatment, lasting perhaps for several years, even when there is no external sign of the disease.

2. It is extremely contagious, especially by the sores and erosions (however small they may be) which generally occur on the genital organs and in the mouth. These contagious sores and erosions may occur, however, on any part of the body.

3. A patient with syphilis must, therefore, abstain from any sexual intercourse when he has the slightest soreness or other lesions on the genital organs unless he has been certified by a doctor to be free from infection. He must abstain from kissing when he has sores or soft patches on the lips or tongue, for a kiss, even on the healthy skin, may be contagious.

4. Contagion may also be transmitted through the medium of any object which has been in contact with the contagious secretions of the disease; for example, pipes, cigars, cigarettes, towels, clothing, spoons, glasses, etc. Great care must be taken to avoid infecting others in this way.

5. Syphilis is hereditarily transmitted to children (who generally die), when it has not been sufficiently treated. A syphilitic sufferer should not marry without consulting a doctor and obtaining his permission after a full and truthful statement of his illness.

6. A child born of a syphilitic father or mother should never be wet-nursed, as it may transmit syphilis to the nurse.

7. When a syphilitic subject is affected with any other illness, he should always inform his doctor of his former syphilis, for this information may be very useful in the direction of treatment and for the cure of the complaint.

Gonorrhœa.—1. Gonorrhœa (Clap) in a man is a serious complaint, and should never be neglected. If not treated, it is liable to lead to stricture and other dangerous and troublesome results.

2. In a woman this disease is still more serious, and often results in sterility, chronic ill-health, or even loss of life. The infant of a mother suffering from gonorrhœa is not infrequently blinded by the disease.

3. It is extremely contagious and may remain so even after all apparent discharge and soreness have disappeared. A "gleet" is often very contagious. If any of the discharge gets into the eye, violent inflammation will be caused and the sight may be destroyed. This may occur from towels, sponges, clothing, etc. Both children and adults have frequently lost their sight from contagion conveyed in this manner.

4. A patient with gonorrhœa must, therefore, abstain from sexual intercourse and from marriage until he has been examined by a doctor and has been informed that he is free of infection. The slightest trace of discharge or soreness may be virulently contagious to others.

National Insurance.

Information has reached Brisbane that the Federal Government is submitting a list of questions to pharmaceutical bodies on this subject. The need for uniform action is apparent, and the general opinion here is that some means should be found to secure full consideration of the matter from a Federal point of view.

Amalgamated Insurance Limited.

The prospectus of the new insurance company was circulated amongst Queensland pharmacists early in the month, and Mr. A. E. Druitt, the general manager, paid a visit to Brisbane to place the scheme before local pharmacists. It is generally admitted there are potent possibilities in the new scheme.

South Australia.

(From Our Adelaide Correspondent.)

Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia.

A meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia was held on August 26 at the Y.M.C.A. rooms. Mr. R. Owen Fox presided over a large attendance. Owing to various statements regarding national health insurance, a resolution had been moved at a meeting on August 7 that Mr. W. H. Porter be sent to Melbourne to confer with the leading pharmaceutical chemists there. It also had been arranged that a leading pharmacist (Mr. Sydney Mears) should come from Sydney for the same purpose. The representatives of the three States met, and afterwards formed a deputation to the Prime Minister, who promised that he would consult the pharmacists for any information he might want with regard to the dispensing parts of the scheme. In the opinion of Mr. Porter, the result of the deputation had been gratifying. Local matters of interest were also considered, especially in regard to the defence of pharmaceutical chemists.

Chemists' Privileges Attacked.

The Medical Practitioners Bill, which has been introduced by the Government into the South Australian Legislative Council, is designed to consolidate the existing law and to establish a Medical Board much on the lines of similar bodies operating in other States. The Bill provides for a Board of five members, to be appointed by the Governor, after nomination, as follows:—Two by the Minister, two by the legally qualified medical practitioners, and one by the Council of the University. The appointment is for a term of three years in each case. Members of the Board must have been registered as doctors for at least five years, and be of honourable repute. They will appoint a President, and three members at a meeting will constitute a quorum. A registrar, who may be a member, must be appointed, and a Secretary may be engaged, and must act under the control of the Board. All persons registered under the repealed Acts will be enrolled, subject to the new statute; but the provisions for the registration of other practitioners are stricter than those of the Act of 1889, so far as they apply to practitioners from overseas, in order to ensure that their degrees shall be as valuable as those won in Australia. To the grounds for which registration may be cancelled the following is added:—"Deemed by the Board to have been guilty of infamous conduct in any professional respect"—a very wide definition.

The Bill virtually establishes an absolute and rigid medical monopoly, under the direction of from three to five gentlemen, who may fairly be supposed to be deeply imbued with the traditions and usages of an association famous for its exclusiveness and disciplinary regulations. Special privileges appear to be conferred without corresponding obligations, in some cases at least. The measure proposes to prohibit persons without the stipulated qualifications from calling themselves medical practitioners, and from practising as doctors and prescribing medicine for any kind of reward. It would, for instance, place under a ban an intelligent herbalist or any other layman fairly well informed regarding ordinary ailments, who, in a sparsely settled country district where neither a registered doctor nor a licensed chemist was available, attended and prescribed for sufferers for illness. The treatment might be successful, but fees for attendance and advice would be irrecoverable. And yet at one time, in some out-of-the-way parts of Australia, when no solicitor was available for a Court case, a layman was recognised by the Bench as a legal agent and advocate, and permitted to charge fees accordingly.

Clause 35 creates a net with a mesh seemingly small enough to catch and convict as an offender even an experienced paterfamilias who might advise a friend to take a dose of castor oil for a common ailment; or a mother who might help to relieve from pain a neighbour's child. While fairly protecting the public and the profession, the Legislature may wisely refuse to pass the clause in its present drastic form. One of the subsections would deprive the wage-earning classes of the immense benefit which they now derive from the voluntary kindness of chemists. In probably hundreds of instances daily qualified druggists are appealed to by mothers regarding what they should do for ailing children; and if this ready means of obtaining counsel were denied to them, a vast amount of suffering would be unrelieved. The tendency of the Bill is to compel people to seek the advice of a registered doctor only for all bodily complaints; but many citizens in the towns, as well as in rural localities, are virtually unable, for financial reasons, to adopt that course. In the circumstances, they might be expected to resent any interference with their existing habit of helping themselves, with friendly lay aid, to save the expense of doctor's bills. The community would welcome the suppression of the conscienceless charlatan who preys on the vices and morbidity of foolish men and women; but it recognises that outside the highly organised orthodox medical profession are worthy citizens who practise electro-homeopathy and other alleged remedial or curative systems, from which groups of intelligent people are satisfied they derive benefit. In a spirit by no means peculiar to themselves, the medical profession comprehensively condemn this outside competition or rivalry as quackery; but the public are prone to view that competition tolerantly, if only because of the mysterious and inexorable etiquette which so largely governs the medical fraternity, and the natural desire for freedom from the pressure of a costly monopoly.

The local branch of the P.D.L. has had the Bill under consideration, and steps are being taken to have a clause inserted protecting the rights and privileges of pharmacists. Whilst admitting that the measure has many good points, the public press is averse to the imposition of such restrictive conditions, so far as simple prescribing is concerned, and the Bill will probably be shorn of these objectionable features before it secures a place in the Statute Book.

[From later reports we learn that, as the result of representations made, the Government has agreed to withdraw the clause objected to.—Ed. "A.J.P."]

THE NEW MEDICAL BILL

is not meeting with more opposition in the Upper House than might have been expected. It was drafted by a medical man for medical men, and certainly does not neglect their interests. An old Parliamentary hand said that the duty of the Opposition is to oppose, but even the Government are not quite satisfied with the Bill, which is pronounced too drastic. Even Sir J. Downer, a champion for vested interests, suggested the striking-out of one clause in order that the "druggist—the poor man's doctor—might be made safe."

I think if anybody feels disappointed when the Bill becomes an Act it will be the doctors, for privileges and close corporations are the *bete noir* of the Labour Party. The Bill is at present only in what is sometimes called the House of Second Thought, and has yet to be dealt with by the militant Labour men of the Assembly. It is remarkable that not one word has been said in the debates about the National Health Insurance idea, perhaps it will come on later, when the Uplifters of Humanity have it in hand.

SOCIAL INSURANCE.

Mr. Glynn, the Minister for External Affairs, says of the National Health Insurance, or, as he prefers to call it, Social Insurance, that his idea is to draw the attention of the Friendly Societies to the salient features of the scheme, with a view to securing their suggestions and co-operation, to improve the status of these societies, and, as far as possible, to work with them. He also proposes to consider the full sociological effect, and will welcome criticism from this point of view. He has already sent out a long list of questions to heads of the societies, and has thereby already broken the ice.

THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH.

The drug trade in Australia may be said to be renascent in that it is casting-off its mediaeval traditions and taking on new ways with an almost bewildering activity. It was known as a trade of large profits, slow returns, and great responsibilities, and the maxims that are quite in keeping with the sale of ripe cherries, such as small profits and quick returns, found no place with the druggists, in fact, they don't always seem even now to go together in the drug trade, hence, perhaps, the need of P.A.T.A., etc. The grocer turns over his stock as soon as possible, and says: "Out of sight, out of mind." While a bottle of, say, Lysol, or something else, stands on our shelves it gives us no concern, when a customer takes it away we are sometimes filled with doubt as to what may be done with it. This is not morbid, it is natural to us, knowing its potentialities and the "cussedness" of human nature; but, like most druggists, I often sleep more soundly for having refused to sell something, but this is not business. How is the new man going to deal with the situation Will he hide his eyes like the ostrich? Can he repudiate the unwritten law of responsibility and say: "Caveat emptor?" and will it help him if he does?

PASSING AWAY.

For many years the monogram F.B.H. has been familiar to S.A. chemists on the bottom of dispensing bottles, etc., but it will soon disappear. At first it was, like the legend, "made in Germany," a bye word to the aesthete, but it has grown to be acceptable. In closing his works, which Mr. Hughes took over when, by an euphemism, they were called a "going concern," he states that through the ups and downs of 25 years he never had a trade dispute with his men.

Western Australia.

Food and Drug Regulations.

In the Western Australian Legislative Council on August 27th, the Hon. W. Kingsmill asked the Colonial Secretary (Mr. J. M. Drew), regarding the Food and Drug Regulations: "(1) Whether, in view of the fact that criticisms by the Government Analyst and the Deputy Commissioner of Public Health of certain patent medicines, the formulae of which have not been lodged with the Health Department under the proposed Food and Drug Regulations, have been published in the "Government Gazette," instructions will be issued to those gentlemen to deal in a similar manner with those patent medicines, the formulae of which have been so lodged? (2) If not, what are the reasons for such differentiation?" The Colonial Secretary said that it was proposed to analyse and investigate patent medicines, irrespective of whether formulae had been deposited or not. The fact that a formula had been deposited did not confer on the medicine any recognition or guarantee of efficacy whatever by the department. In cases where formulae had been deposited and manufacturers had in that manner indicated their confidence in the department, it was intended, should there be, upon analysis and investigation, grounds for criticism of the formula or of the claims put forward, to first communicate with the manufacturers with a view to affording them an opportunity of rebutting the official criticisms. The exhibition of confidence on the part of a manufacturer warranted the exhibition of similar qualities on the part of the department. On September 1st, Mr. Kingsmill secured the withdrawal of the regulations requiring the disclosure of the formulae, on the understanding that the matter would come up again for discussion when the recommendations of the Federal and Inter-State Conference were being dealt with.

"SPATULA" SAYINGS.

The pharmacist who understands his business and attends to it has no need to apologise to any one. There is no occupation or profession that is more honorable and worthy of a man's best efforts. The pharmacist who is not held in the highest esteem by his fellow-citizens has himself, and not his profession, to blame.

Tasmania.

Pharmacy Board of Tasmania.

The monthly meeting of the Board was held on August 21.

Present.—Messrs. M. Rushton, H. T. Gould, T. James, H. Sidwell, W. B. Drake, and the Registrar (Mr. James Reid). In the absence of the President (Mr. Weaver), Mr. Rushton was voted to the chair.

Poisons' License.—The application of Mr. H. O. T. Denny, manager for Mrs. J. J. Ball, of King Island, was approved, and license to be issued.

Reciprocity.—Further correspondence was read from the Victorian Board, but the matter was held over, owing to the absence of Mr. Weaver, who was in Melbourne, and who would, no doubt, have something to report.

New Zealand.—Registrar tabled the New Zealand Gazette-notice intimating the concurrence with the arrangement of the Governor-in-Council, and, on the motion of Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. James, the agreement was approved and ordered to be executed by this Board.

New Regulations.—Registrar reported that, on the authority of the President, he had ordered 500 copies of the new regulations from the Government Printer, and his action was confirmed.

Unqualified Assistant.—The police reported action in the case of an unqualified assistant being left in charge of a pharmacy in the country, and asked for further instructions in the matter. Resolved that the case be proceeded with under the supervision of Mr. M. J. Clarke, counsel to the Board, and that application be made to have the case tried before a police magistrate rather than before the local justices.

Poisons' Act Amendment.—Messrs. Drake and Rushton presented full report in the matter, but, owing to the importance of the item, it was postponed to a special meeting to be held on Wednesday, the 27th inst., at 7.45 p.m.

Dr. Purdy, late Chief Health Officer of Tasmania, wrote thanking the Board for their good wishes on his removal to Sydney.

Diplomas in the names of William Gordon Allen and Laura Catherine Jolliffe, who had recently passed the Final Examination, were approved, and the Seal of the Board ordered to be affixed thereto.

[Copy of Dr. Purdy's letter to the Board.]

Town Hall, Sydney,
6th August, 1913.

The Registrar,
Pharmacy Board of Tasmania, Hobart.

Dear Sir,—

Please convey to the President and members of the Pharmacy Board of Tasmania my deep appreciation of their complimentary resolution to myself on leaving the State. I shall treasure your communication with the resolution as a testimony to our cordial relations.

I trust that my interests will always be those of pharmacists like my friends in that line in Tasmania.

Without wishing to indulge in fulsome flattery, permit me to say that I consider that Tasmania has been fortunate in having maintained pharmacy at so high a level, and that, in my opinion, I have never known a finer set of men engaged in pharmacy in any of the countries it has been my lot to work.

Trusting that I may have the opportunity of seeing any of my Tasmanian pharmaceutical friends should they visit Sydney.

Believe me, yours sincerely,
J. S. PURDY.

Pharmaceutical Society of Tasmania.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held on August 12.

Present.—Messrs. J. A. Crisp (President), W. G. Burton, H. Sidwell, James, Brownell, and Mr. James Reid (Secretary).

Minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed as correct. P.D.L. Secretary reported interviews he had had with the local manager of the I.O.A., and explained the difficulty with regard to registration of a local branch. After discussion, it was resolved to leave the consideration for the present, pending the receipt of further information from the I.O.A.

Day of Meeting.—As it was found that the day of meeting did not suit all the members, it was resolved that the day be altered to the third Thursday in the month.

Finance.—Secretary reported that the outstanding subscriptions were coming in but slowly, and that there was still about £8 out.

P.D.L.

Circular to New South Wales Chemists.

The New South Wales branch has issued the following circular to local pharmacists bringing under prominent notice the strong claims of the P.D.L. for support.

WHAT THE P.D.L. IS.—An organisation of chemists formed for the primary object of protecting members and their assistants against mistakes, alleged mistakes or blackmail through errors in dispensing or delivery of medicines.

This is done by means of a special insurance policy costing you £1 0s. 11d. per annum, plus 1s. per year for every assistant you employ. Before you can insure under our special terms you must be a member of the P.D.L. and the entrance fee to membership is £1, with a yearly subscription of 10s. Your insurance payment covers legal expenses or damages against you up to £200 per annum. This association insures you for a further £200 without charge, so that you are really covered to the extent of £400.

If you put your fire insurance through us or induce any friend to do so, the P.D.L. gets 15 per cent. commission on same, and that 15 per cent. is put into our funds and used to benefit chemists in connection with any movement to carry out the secondary objects of the P.D.L.

Secondary Objects.—To give free legal advice on all matters appertaining to your business. Messrs. Kershaw, Matthews and Lane, of Sydney, are our solicitors. All requests for advice

must be made through the P.D.L. Board, and will receive prompt attention.

To have a representative appointed on the Federal Pure Foods and Drugs Board, so that the interests of pharmacists may be conserved.

To insist that the Sergeant compounders in the Federal military forces be trained dispensers instead of ill-trained youths, and that they shall have commissioned rank equally with doctors and dentists. (The Minister for Defence is at present dealing with our representations on this matter.)

To have a pharmacists' representative appointed by the Government on the National Insurance Commission or Board of Inquiry should such be appointed.

To take active part in the framing or amending of the new Federal Poisons Act.

To watch Federal and State legislation generally and at once act in your interests.

To do such other things as may at any time be deemed necessary to conserve your interests in any direction where it may be thought they will be likely to be disadvantageously affected.

South Australia.

A meeting of the Advisory Board was held at Hindley-street, Adelaide, on 27th August, 1913. Present: The President (Mr. W. H. Porter) in the chair, and Messrs. Fox, Strempel, Cowling and Gryst. Apology from Mr. J. H. Young.

The President said that he had called the meeting in a hurry, as it was necessary to immediately take some steps with regard to the Medical Bill, then before Parliament. Mr. Cowling suggested that the matter should be dealt with by the Retail Chemists' Defence Association. Mr. Porter pointed out that P.D.L. was the main body, and that it would be better for P.D.L. to deal with matters of this kind, and it was resolved that the Act should be sent to Melbourne at once and have an opinion from headquarters. It was also resolved that we should immediately wait upon the Hon. Mr. Styles, who had already spoken on the matter the previous day. Carried.

The Act, and cutting from "Register," was sent to Melbourne by the mail, and the Board waited on the Hon. Mr. Styles as resolved.

Enthusiastic Meeting in New South Wales.

The board of directors of P.D.L. convened a meeting of pharmacists at Hill's Cafe, Castlereagh-street, Sydney, on September 2nd. The object of the meeting was to explain the objects of the P.D.L. to those who had not joined it, and also to welcome Mr. Towl, who had taken a prominent part in the work of the P.D.L. in Victoria.

Mr. Mears occupied the chair, and said that as they were aware P.D.L. stood for Pharmaceutical Defence Limited, and this body offered to pharmacists insurance against mistakes or alleged mistakes. If by any chance the wrong medicine was left in mistake, the insurance company with whom they worked would come and fight the case on behalf of the pharmacist. Accidents would happen, and though it might be said they were not likely, yet they never knew when they might require such assistance as was now offered. An important point was that they were allowed a 50 per cent. rebate on all insurance done through them. It was very important for them to get their friends or relatives to insure, and as many outside people as they could influence, as from all of these the P.D.L. obtained the rebate. The terms under which they could insure were excellent. The entrance fee was £1, and the annual subscription 10s. The amount of the premium would depend on the amount for which they were covered, but they had a further cover from the general insurance policy held by the directors. The probable first year's cost would be £2 10s. 11d., and the next year they would only be called upon to pay £1 10s. 11d., with a small sum extra to cover an apprentice or an assistant or a locum tenens. They also got free legal advice on all business matters, and this was a great saving. He urged them to write to the directors of the P.D.L., and they would see that their requirements in this matter were fully met. The first year of membership they would have to pay about one shilling per week, and the second year at the rate of about 8½d. per week.

During the last three months the P.D.L. had done important work in Sydney. In Victoria the company had been in operation for about twelve months, and they were looking forward to the issue of their first annual report. He had spent a very busy week in Melbourne recently, and took part in a very important movement. This was the formation of the P.D.L. Federal Board. Mr. F. Buckhurst was elected president, and the Federal Council did him the honour of electing him vice-president. There was also on this board a representative from South Australia, and all States in the Commonwealth would shortly have their representatives. This would be a great advantage, as the board would be a most mobile one. It would be far easier to promote united action than if several members from each State had to meet.

Mr. Mears then proceeded to enumerate some of the benefits secured by the action of the Board of the P.D.L. in Victoria. According to the Military Regulations issued, there were certain men connected with the Military forces who belonged to the Ambulance Corps, and after a very little training they passed an examination before their officers and were promoted to the rank of sergeant compounders. The regulations had been copied from those in force in England, and some of us knew what difficulties had arisen from this class of compounders. They were claiming the same rights as qualified men. The matter was represented to the Military Board, but these representations were ignored, and hence the pharmacists formed a deputation and waited upon Senator Millen. They were introduced by Dr. Maloney, M.H.R., and Senator Millen said that he was appalled by the state of things which the deputation brought under his notice. The public were protected from unqualified dispensers, but the military forces were afforded no such protection. Why should the soldier have his medicine made up by ignorant youths who had un-

dergone no proper training as dispensers. He promised that this matter should have his close attention. This was a most important matter, and very few pharmacists knew of these military regulations.

There was also another matter he desired to mention. A dispenser was ranked as a non-commissioned officer, while doctors and dentists were commissioned officers. The pharmacist had to be an educated man, and should be eligible as a commissioned officer, also especially as drivers of motor waggons were commissioned officers. On this matter the Minister was less sympathetic, and said that of necessity anomalies would crop up, but he would give this matter his attention also.

Mr. Mears also mentioned the matter of National Health Insurance, and stated that in the event of a commission being formed on the matter Mr. Cook had promised that a pharmacist should be on the board. As the representatives of 2000 pharmacists of the Commonwealth, they felt that they should be consulted in matters vitally affecting their professional welfare, and they were satisfied with the answer they received from Mr. Cook.

When the Federal Government formed a commission to form Federal regulations in connection with the Pure Food and Drugs Act, after a strenuous fight Mr. A. R. Bailey was appointed a member. The result was very satisfactory, and among the points conceded were the following, which were deemed very important. Prescribing by chemists was not interfered with in an unwarrantable manner. Cotton seed oil might be used in certain cases in place of olive oil, methylated spirit might be employed in liniments, and Australian wines used instead of imported wines for medicinal preparation. There were also several other points of minor importance which they had obtained through having Mr. Bailey as the pharmaceutical representative on the Board. Thus pharmacists will see that both Federal and State matters would engage their attention.

Of course there were objectors to the movement. Some suggestions they have received were very sensible, but some were very silly. One man would not join the P.D.L. unless they could get all retailers to adopt a uniform selling price, and they all knew how impossible this task would be. He urged his hearers to do all they could to influence their friends and neighbours to insure in their company, as all the money that was obtained went to help Pharmaceutical Defence. They were asked to act as insurance agents for their own and for the mutual benefit of the craft.

The chairman then took the opportunity of introducing to the pharmacists present Miss Lazarus, their secretary. Many had asked, "Why not a man?" and he could only reply in the words of another who had said, "A man is superior to a woman when he is, and when he is not, he is not." He had also to introduce to them Mr. C. E. Towl, who was an active worker for P.D.L. in Victoria and also president of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria. They were working very harmoniously together, and he was sure that in Mr. F. P. J. Gray, the newly-elected president of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, they had a supporter, as his presence showed that evening. Thus it would be seen that the P.D.L. and the Pharmaceutical Society were working harmoniously together for the mutual benefit of all concerned. He was also pleased to see Mr. Faris Ings, of Burwood, present. Mr. Ings was the president of the recently-formed Western Suburbs' Master Pharmacists Association, and he wished that movement every success. Mr. F. P. J. Gray was also moving for a revival of a similar association among the pharmacists of the eastern suburbs.

Mr. Mears then proceeded to give some useful hints as to how he thought these local societies should be conducted. He thought that they should be as economic as possible. Chemists could not always be having their hands in their pockets. There was the annual subscription to the Pharmaceutical Society and to P.D.L. and to the P.A.T.A., and to the local society, and also to a great many other objects that the business men felt the constant drain on his pocket in these matters. He thought that they should try and manage matters on a cheaper basis. Of course they wanted a general meeting now and again, but if one man could look after five or six other men and represent their wishes at a meeting it would be better. These men could ring him up from time to time, and he could keep them posted up on all that was taking place. Funds were eaten up in rent for places to meet. A society with 50 or 60 chemists on the roll would require a large room to meet in, while by the plan he suggested they could meet in a smaller and less costly room. If they had an executive and these coteries they could reduce the cost. Mr. Mears said that he met Mr. Towl for the first time in connection with the work of P.D.L., and he recently met Mr. Porter, who was the representative of P.D.L. from South Australia. P.D.L. was quite an Australasian movement, and they were working most harmoniously. When interstate action was needed they had only to write to the general secretary and say: "We want so and so done," and they got a prompt reply: "Your wishes are being carried out."

Mr. Chas. E. Towl said that this was not the first time he had the pleasure of addressing an audience of Sydney pharmacists. His friend Mr. James Dixson gave him an old card which called to his mind how many years ago he was associated with Mr. Dixson and the late Mr. Sam Park, Mr. Hallam, and Mr. Loney in the formation of a Chemists' Assistants' Association in Sydney. In 1882 he was secretary to the first Chemists' Ball Committee, and for three years that committee managed the chemists' annual ball, which has continued to be an annual function. He found in those days that chemists' assistants were a genial lot of fellows, and his past recollections of Sydney were of a very happy character. A certain drug cutting concern was not then the octopus that it had since become. P.D.L. was one of those spontaneous movements which the force of circumstances produced. They were doubtless familiar with the particular case which called it into existence. He referred to the case of Mr. Gough, of Echuca, who was badly penalised in consequence of the course taken by a badly instructed counsel and a badly directed jury. The effect was that pharmacists came to the conclu-

sion that they never knew when they might be placed in a similar predicament. A meeting was called, and about 50 or 60 pharmacists responded. Mr. Buckhurst took the initiative, and in the room about £150 was subscribed to assist Mr. Gough, while subsequently the amount rose to about £300, and the outcome was the formation of P.D.L. They were building up national history, and all had to take a part in the development of the institutions of their native land or the land of their adoption. They could not predict how great this country woud become before long. In 1893 they suffered from a terrible collapse, but soon revived. There were few countries which came through such a crisis with the same honour and integrity, and paid 20s. in the pound.

The result of the Gough case had been that they had been brought together, and their kindred interests led them to united action. In a former speech he had said that where Governments made laws which provided for the public protection, and passed laws for the benefit of the public, they should automatically also create privileges which they were bound to recognise. The public did not always do this. The case in point was the Wages Board. If unqualified men were given positions on such a board there was always a danger in a movement being set on foot to alter the Pharmacy Act so as to take these men in and give them the same privileges as qualified pharmacists. Mr. Towl proceeded to point out how the safety of the public was safeguarded by the interposition of the qualified pharmacist between the physician and the patient. If a physician made an error in a prescription the pharmacist must not make up such a prescription.

In Victoria they had various institutions each with their separate and respective duties. The Pharmacy Board was responsble for the administration of the Poisons Act, and had its duty to the public in the conducting of examinations for the qualifying of pharmacists. The Pharmaceutical Society was responsible for the education of the pharmacist, and received the fees for this important work. P.D.L. concerned itself with the business matters of the pharmacist. Their object was "Defence"—sometimes defence against themselves; by that he meant defence against illegitimate practices among pharmacists. They endeavoured to establish an ethical standard among pharmacists. This was difficult, as circumstances were so variable, but there were things unnameable in their profession which they must hunt out. They must show that pharmacists were educated gentlemen, and must do their level best to keep all others out of their ranks.

They had to safeguard their privileges. They might get a Wages Board in Victoria, but they must keep out what could only be called the barnacles of the profession. Untrained men should never be allowed to take on themselves the responsibilities of the qualified pharmacist. If such a man made a mistake, all the P.D.L. in the world would not help a business thus ruined. The Veterinary Board gave them some trouble, but in consequence of the representations of P.D.L. the privileges of pharmacists were upheld and the board acknowledged the reasonable attitude of the directors. The United Friendly Societies, in their dispensaries, had been in the habit of openly violating the Act in connection with the sale of goods, but representation had been made by P.D.L., and there was every reason to believe that the unlawful practices would be suppressed in the near future. They had induced men in other businesses to take a proper view of the matter, and had met with a sympathetic response.

Mr. Towl said that he was not there with a special brief from P.D.L., but he was deeply interested in its welfare. He was glad to meet old friends. He had had the pleasure of meeting Mr. F. P. J. Gray on his last visit to Melbourne, and they had a good time together. He urged the importance of united action among pharmacists. If "unity is strength" why should they not have unity in pharmacy? Mr. Towl concluded by quoting some very apt sayings: "It is very easy to cut prices, but it takes brains to produce a better article." "Many businesses have proved failures because everybody wants to eat and drink, but nobody wants to wash the dishes." He urged pharmacists to do their best and contribute their brick in the erection of the stately edifice which pharmacists were called upon to erect in Australia.

Mr. F. P. J. Gray said it gave him great pleasure to be there to welcome Mr. Towl. Meeting that gentleman in Melbourne some few months ago, he was struck with his ability. Personally he (Mr. Gray) saw no reason why the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales should not work in perfect harmony with P.D.L. It would be his endeavour to work hand in hand with them, and there would not be any friction in the future. The duty rested on every pharmacist to support this movement as well as the P.A.T.A.

Mr. Cox and Mr. E. Faris Ings also spoke welcoming Mr. Towl and advocating united action in matters affecting the welfare of pharmacists.

Mr. Mears proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Towl for his excellent address, and this was carried amidst loud acclamation.

Mr. Towl, in responding, thanked the Sydney pharmacists for their hearty welcome, and expressed his appreciation of the good that the P.A.T.A. had done. He hoped to see a similar institution in Victoria shortly. He thought that the wholesale houses should take a firmer stand against all forms of retail selling. In his opinion the wholesale houses should not sell at all to their employees. The public servants who had dealings with the wholesale houses should not be allowed to purchase anything for their own use. These men got their bread and butter from the public and should be made to pay for what they wanted. The employees of the wholesale trade got their living from the retail trade, and therefore should pay retail for what they required. United action of all retailers would bring this about.

At the conclusion of the meeting the company adjourned for refreshments.

VICTORIA.

The directors met on September 17th. Present:—Messrs. Buckhurst (chair), Cornell, Gulliver, Mewkill, Peters, and Rankin.

Correspondence.—A number of letters were received from the New South Wales, South Australian, and Western Australian branches, in reference to administrative matters. Correspondence was submitted in connection with the formation of a branch in Tasmania.

Dr. Ferguson Lemon, hon. sec. B.M.A. (Victorian Branch) acknowledging, with thanks, receipt of letter re insurance scheme which had been placed before the Council.

Mr. W. Finlayson, M.H.R., asking him to refer to the question of Army Dispenser, in his speech on September 18th. Mr. Finlayson replied that he would be very pleased to do this, and that Dr. Maloney had promised to support his remarks.

Credit notes for general insurances were received on account of Messrs. H. C. Percy, Duerdin and Sainsbury, Freemasons' Hall, and C. T. Loughnan.

The Warrnambool Chemists' Association brought under notice a matter in connection with the proposed local dispensary. It was resolved that the question could be handled with more prospect of success by the local pharmacists.

Letters were received from fifty pharmacists, renewing their subscriptions and indemnity policies for the year 1913-14.

McMicking and Co., agents for "Biomalt," wrote, stating that the prices of this preparation would be protected. Mr. C. E. Hall, the representative for "Glaxo," urging the formation of a P.A.T.A. in Victoria.

R. C. Cowley, Brisbane, forwarding the following resolution passed by the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland:—"This meeting is heartily in sympathy with the National movement in Australia of defence and co-operation among pharmacists."

Commissioner of Taxes, stating that the company would be required to pay income tax on its revenue derived from commissions.

W. E. Pearcey, solicitor, forwarding documents and agreements in connection with Amalgamated Insurance (Australia) Ltd.

W. G. Piper, forwarding application fee received from Mr. J. Maughan, Mirboo North, also literature re National Insurance.

South Australian Branch wrote, asking for advice re the Medical Bill, which sought to prohibit chemists giving advice. The secretary said that a reply was at once sent, and that as the result of the representations made by the local branch the obnoxious clause had been withdrawn.

The Veterinary Board of Victoria wrote, bringing under notice a case in which a country chemist had treated horses in his district by using the lance. It was resolved that this was contrary to the provisions of the Veterinary Surgeons' Act, and went outside the scope of the agreement arrived at at the conference with the Veterinary Board.

R. S. Poynter, Coleraine, wrote, resigning his membership, as he had sold his pharmacy, and was devoting all his time to dentistry. He thought his successor (Mr. A. E. Taylor) would become a member. Resolved that the resignation be accepted.

Election of New Members.—The following new members were elected:—John Maughan, Mirboo North, and Thomas H. Dick, Strathfield (N.S.W.).

The Retiring Directors.—Under the articles of association four directors were required to retire in 1913. Resolved that the matter be determined by lot. The result of the drawing was that Messrs. Cornell, Gulliver, Peters and Rankin retire at the annual meeting in November.

Annual Meeting.—It was resolved that the annual meeting be held during the second week in November, and the secretary was instructed to prepare the annual report and financial statements for submission to the auditor.

The New Insurance Co.—The chairman reported what had been done with regard to the formation of the new company, the prospects of which he believed were very promising. It was resolved to hold a general meeting of the members to discuss the scheme, and recent developments in connection with National Insurance on Tuesday, September 30th, at 8.30 p.m.

Claim for Damages.—A letter was received from the general manager of the I.O.A., stating that a claim had been made by a pharmacist under his indemnity policy. The pharmacist in question wrongly dispensed a prescription, and gave some tablets to a patient, which, instead of contracting the pupil of the eye, caused it to expand, subjecting the patient to intense pain, and necessitating treatment by a medical man. A claim was made, which was immediately paid by the I.O.A.

Financial Statement.—Mr. Rankin, for the Hon. Treasurer, submitted the financial statement, showing balance of £51 16s. in general fund, and £332 3s. 9d. in reserve fund. It was resolved that an additional sum of £36 be transferred to the reserve fund.

Accounts were passed for payment, and the meeting adjourned.

P.A.T.A.

The Allenbury Lines.

Messrs. Allen and Hanburys (Australasia) Ltd. have issued a circular to every chemist in business in New Zealand, pointing out that since issuing their tariff of retail prices they have received many complaints that the prices fixed for the Bynin preparations did not allow sufficient profit, and that 4s. should be the rate for same.

They state that their reason for issuing a tariff was owing to complaints of the cutting of prices in New Zealand, and in their endeavour to help the trade they appear to have erred in not fixing the prices for the Bynin preparations at a higher rate.

The firm now suggests that the prices for the foods be charged as follows:—

	Per tin.
The "Allenburys" Nos. 1 and 2 Foods	1/8
" " " 3 Food (small) . .	1/-
" " " 3 " (large) . .	1/11
" " Diet	1/8
" " Cocoa	1/8

and request the retail trade to do something to help them to arrange prices that will meet their wishes for their other preparations, viz., Bynin preparations, feeders, etc.

It is also pointed out that in New South Wales and Queensland the firm never receives a complaint, as the wholesalers and retailers formed their associations to prevent cutting, and helped to enforce the tariff, which has given entire satisfaction.

In connection with this circular Mr. Zions, secretary of the P.A.T.A., states that if chemists in New Zealand do not reap the benefit of the action taken by the firm it is their own fault in not forming a local P.A.T.A. Messrs. Allen and Hanburys write that it is their desire to stop the cutting down of profits, and with that end in view they would like to see the retail trade become active by forming a P.A.T.A. in New Zealand. Only the formation of a strong association of chemists and storekeepers will be effectual in putting a stop to the cutting of prices.

Profits for Pharmacists.

The P.A.T.A. has issued a circular showing that during the past 10 years the Association has expended £2700 in stopping cutting, and it is estimated that, as the result of the work done, the pharmacists of Sydney and suburbs have benefited to the extent of thousands of pounds. The circular states that Mellin's and Benger's Foods are being placed on the Protected List at 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d.

Publications.

A Critical Revision of the Genus Eucalyptus. — By J. H. Maiden (Government Botanist of New South Wales and Director of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney). Vol. II., Part 8, being part XVIII. of the complete work. This part includes descriptions of six species of Eucalyptus, viz.:—E. macrocarpa, E. preissiana, E. megacarpa, E. globulus, E. maideni, and E. urnigera, and completes the consideration of already no less than one hundred species. E. macrocarpa is described as a native of Western Australia, attaining no great size (14ft. at most), but is remarkable for having rich crimson flowers three inches across, the fruit, when mature, having the same diameter. Of the other species described E. globulus is of special interest to pharmacists. The products obtained from this species (the blue gum) were those first introduced into medical use, and all the earlier papers published in Great Britain dating from 1870, and dealing with the properties of the genus, had reference to this species. It is also the species largely planted in the Roman Campagna and elsewhere with the object of counteracting malaria and fevers. It yields probably the best oil for medical and pharmaceutical purposes. At one time it was supposed to display no variation, but the author describes one variety coronifera. The remaining species described are of no special interest to pharmacists. The plates illustrating the species described in the part are as beautiful in appearance and as carefully executed as those in previous issues. S.P.

Early Closing.

Objections to 6 p.m.

About 20 witnesses turned up at a recent sitting of the New South Wales Royal Commission on the Industrial Laws for the purpose of objecting to any proposal which would result in chemists' shops being closed at 6 p.m. Mr. C. J. Carroll appeared on behalf of the objectors, and Mr. F. Else-Mitchell for the Chemists' Early Closing League.

Mr. Robert Gordon Brereton, chemist, Marrickville, said that about 40 per cent. of his business was done after 6 p.m., about 30 per cent. of such business being prescriptions. Referring to the evidence of another witness who appeared before the commission, he said that about 3 per cent. only of the business transacted after 6 p.m. consisted of the sale of tooth brushes.

Mr. Carroll: Do you think it would be detrimental to the public to have chemists' shops closed at 6 p.m.?—Most decidedly I do.

What are the doctors' consulting hours in your district?—Seven to 8 p.m.

If the chemists' shops were closed at 6 p.m. would there be the probability of the doctors doing their own dispensing?—Yes, certainly there would be. In fact, it has already been suggested.

The Friendly Societies' dispensaries were closed at 9 p.m., witness continued. It was quite a frequent thing for people to call after 6 p.m. for attention to such things as minor injuries or to get advice. If a definite closing hour were to be fixed he would suggest 8 p.m. or 8.30 p.m.

Replying to Mr. Mitchell (Chemists' Early Closing Association), witness declined to say how many prescriptions he dispensed per day. Roughly, only about 1 per cent. of the prescriptions dispensed after 6 p.m. could be left with safety till the morning.

Mr. Mitchell: But do you suggest there would be a hardship? Would it not be more in the nature of inconvenience to have these purchases held over till the morning? Take the case of a man requiring a packet of salts. Would it be a hardship for him to wait till the morning or merely an inconvenience?

Witness: A packet of salts is frequently quite as important as a doctor's prescription, and often more useful!

Mr. Mitchell: If a proviso were included in an arrangement for 6 o'clock closing that all prescriptions marked "urgent" after 6 p.m. be dispensed would that not meet the case?

Witness: The only result would be that all prescriptions ordered after 6 p.m. would be marked "urgent."

Vincent Patrick M'Manus, partner in the firm of H. A. Rose and Co., city, said that the firm's George-street business had been kept open all night for 20 years, until November last. Now, however, they were closed at 11 p.m. Between 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. on the average 100 to 120 calls were made at the shop. Probably about half of these were for "urgent" prescriptions. During the time the shop had been kept open

all night they certainly dispensed on the average over the 20 years 12 prescriptions per night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. The reason it was decided to close at 11 p.m. was that there was a bill before Parliament seeking to have the shops closed compulsorily at 9 p.m. There was no denying the fact that inconvenience had resulted in consequence of the limitation of hours. Since witness's firm had closed at 11 p.m. numerous complaints had been received from the public and the medical profession. Indeed, Dr. Fiaschi had intended to bring the matter before the Medical Association.

Mr. Leslie Walter Pye, Parramatta, said that on an average he dispensed from 15 to 20 prescriptions after 6 o'clock each night, and he was rarely finished dispensing before 10.30 p.m. Witness would not object to a provision for closing at 8 p.m. In his own business either witness or his assistant slept on the premises all night.

Philip Cecil Davis, chemist, with shops at Camperdown and Stanmore, stated that he did from 70 to 75 per cent. of his business after 6 p.m.

Mr. Stanley William Gayfer, chemist, Summer-hill, estimated that he did 30 to 40 per cent. of his business after 6 p.m.

Mr. Fred P. J. Gray, chemist, Bondi, and representing seven or eight other pharmacists in the eastern suburbs, said that half his business was done after 6 p.m., about 25 per cent. of that being dispensing.

Mr. Albert Rogers, chemist, Leichhardt, produced letters from various lodges, representing 1300 families, objecting to the proposal to close chemists' shops at 6 p.m.

Several other witnesses gave evidence of a similar character, and Mr. Carroll offered to put in a petition signed by 120 chemists objecting to the 6 o'clock proposal.

The commissioner stated that he did not take much notice of petitions.

In Favor of 6 p.m.

Mr. W. S. Park, pharmacist, carrying on business at Pitt-street, Sydney, giving evidence before Mr. Piddington, the Arbitration Commissioner, said he was probably the oldest chemist behind the counter in the Commonwealth. At present his shop was opened at 8 a.m. and closed at 9 p.m., with the exception of Friday and Saturday, when the place was shut at 10 p.m. At one time it was only open to that hour on Saturday nights, but on the coming into operation of the Saturday Half Holiday Act, it became the custom to keep the shops open to the same late hour on Friday nights as well. Some chemists would keep their places open to midnight if it were permitted. There was little or no dispensing after 6 o'clock. Most of the dispensing could be done as well on the following morning without perceptible hardship. He thought it would be better for the chemists' shops to be closed at, say, 6 o'clock by Act of Parliament than by the operation of a wages board. He was also in favour of shutting up at 1 o'clock on Saturdays, as the afternoon trade was comparatively small. Should shops be compelled to close at 6 o'clock, he was in favour of granting permission for the dispensing of doctors' prescriptions after that hour, when marked "urgent." Then no hardship would be suffered.

Your only objection to 6 o'clock closing is on the ground of public convenience?—Yes; absolutely.

Country Chemists' Shops.

At the meeting of the State Executive Council held on September 8 a regulation was approved requiring all chemists' shops within the Borough of Maryborough to be closed in each week during the whole of the year at 8 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and 1 p.m. on Wednesday, such shops to be allowed to re-open on Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Legal.

Equine Dentists.

Prosecution Under Veterinary Surgeons Act.

The first of a series of prosecutions of offenders against the provisions of The Veterinary Surgeons Act, undertaken by the Veterinary Board of Victoria, came on for hearing yesterday at Camperdown, on August 28th, before the local bench. Under such titles as "Equine Dentist," "Specialists on Stock," much illegal practice by men not qualified to be and not registered as veterinary surgeons has been going on in some of the country districts. The board at the end of last year determined, in justice to the public and properly qualified and registered men, whom the Act was passed to protect, to institute a campaign of prosecution, and instructed its solicitor to that effect.

The first prosecution launched was against A. M. Johnstone, of Camperdown, equine dentist. A lengthy adjournment from the day originally fixed for hearing enabled defendant to appreciate the evidence to be called against him, and about 21st inst. he notified the board's solicitor that he intended to admit the offence. The information was disposed of recently. The bench, taking into consideration that the case was the first prosecution and defendant's admissions, fined defendant £2 and £10 10s. costs. Mr. Owen Dixon, standing counsel for the board, appeared to prosecute, instructed by Mr. J. W. Dixon.

Pure Food Act Prosecutions.

At the Prahran Court on 4th September, Thos. H. Chynoweth, grocer, Chapel-street, was prosecuted by the local health authorities for having committed a breach of the Pure Foods Act by selling baking powder below the standard.

Frederick Dunn, city analyst, said the sample was 40 per cent. above the standard in potassium sulphate and 44 per cent. below the standard in carbon dioxide, by weight. In reply to Mr. Cornwall, for the defence, witness said there was no alum or deleterious compound in the powder.

The bench announced that as this was defendant's first offence he would be let off with a fine of 40s., with £3 14s. 3d. costs.

Extract of Sarsaparilla.

At Fitzroy court, on September 4th, before Mr. V. Tanner, P.M., Adolf Levin, cordial manufacturer, 86 Kerr-street, was proceeded against by Inspector J. W. Mellis for having on 12th June sold a drug, to wit, concentrated compound extract of sarsaparilla, which was adulterated. Mr. Freeman said that the article mentioned did not comply with the British Pharmacopœia's standard for concentrated compound solution of sarsaparilla. Hilary Dowling, Government Analyst, gave evidence that defendant's manufacture differed from the British Pharmacopœia standard, inasmuch as it only contained a trace of sarsaparilla. It contained 38.3 gr. of salicylic per gallon, and 24 per cent. of sugar. The standard compound contained 2.1 per cent. of alcohol in its solution of sarsaparilla, whereas there was only a trace of alcohol in defendant's compound. It was not a cordial, owing to the amount of salicyclic acid in it. The bench held that a technical offence had been committed, and fined defendant 5s., with £1 1s. costs.

Cricket.

Chemists' Cricket Club.

The 14th Annual Meeting of the Chemists' Cricket Club was held at Champion's Town Hall Hotel on September 10.

There was an attendance of about 20, including Messrs. Champion, Shaw, Pleasance, Gabriel, Fripp, junr., Chapman, Mathias, Butchers; De Gruchy, Carter, and Morgan. The President of the Club (Mr. D. Shaw) occupied the chair.

The Hon. Secretary submitted the annual report and financial statement, which had been forwarded to all the members.

BATTING AVERAGES

Batsman.	Innings.	Runs.	Highest Score.	Average.
McNeel, A. ...	14	753	118*	68·4
Ballantyne, J. M.	2	120	116	60·0
DeGruchy, T. ...	14	194	29	27·7
Fletcher, N. ...	8	124	39*	24·8
Mathias, F. ...	12	248	65*	22·5
Aumont, A. B. ...	2	31	22	15·5
Barnett, — ...	8	87	37*	14·5
Gabriel, C. J. ...	11	125	28	13·8
Harvie, R. ...	5	34	13	11·3
Hill, H. ...	10	97	28	10·7
Chapman, A. ...	7	65	36	9·2
Staker, E. ...	7	45	15	9·0
Berkley, W. ...	8	66	34	8·2
Cahir, F. ...	3	11	8	5·5
Holloway, T. ...	7	18	7	3·0
Bennett, R. ...	5	14	6	2·8

* Denotes Not Out.

BOWLING AVERAGES.

Bowler.	Balls	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
Ballantyne, J. M	301	138	15	9·2
McNeel, A. ...	692	418	33	12·6
Bennett, R. ...	18	26	2	13·0
Berkley, W. ...	120	98	7	14·0
Mathias, F. ...	801	503	31	16·2
Holloway, T. ...	280	208	9	23·1
Hill, H. ...	282	253	9	28·1
Chapman, A. ...	189	155	5	31·0
DeGruchy, T. ...	54	59	1	59·0

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

	£	s.	d.
Balance from Season 1911-12	14	19	10
Subscriptions — 44 Members at 5/- ...	11	0	0
Donations—			
Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt & Co....	1	1	0
Messrs. Felton, Grimwade & Co.	1	1	0
Messrs. Duerdin & Sainsbury ...	1	1	0
Mr. D. Shaw ...	1	1	0
W. H. Woodhouse ..	1	1	0
Bradford ..	1	0	0
Pickford ..	0	10	6
W. D. Williams	0	10	6
Champion ..	0	10	0
Wasley ..	0	10	0
Goode ..	0	10	0
Surplus Dance, 1912, extra	0	8	0
A. Vale	0	1	6
Dance, 1913 ..	3	8	11
	£38	14	3

	£	s.	d
Printing A/c, Collis Bros. ..	2	12	0
,, Ambler & Co.	0	4	0
Cricket Material, G. o. Smith	0	18	9
Richmond C.C. Subscription. ..	10	10	0
Wholesale Match, Expenses Ground and Catering ..	3	5	6
Insurance Shield ..	1	13	9
Petty Expenses, C. J. Gabriel ..	2	7	3
Balance carried forward	17	3	0
	£38	14	3

Audited and found correct, F. N. PLEASANCE,
C. L. BUTCHERS, Auditor. Hon. Treasurer.

Melbourne, 21st August, 1913.

The report was received and adopted.

Correspondence.—A letter was received from Mr. F. J. Gray, Bondi, suggesting January 19 and following days as a suitable time for the New South Wales cricketers to visit Melbourne, and expressing the hope that the "Waratahs" would succeed in regaining the Challenge Shield.

Election of Office-bearers.—The Patrons and Vice-Presidents of the Club, as stated in the annual report, were re-elected, with the exception that Mr. Shillinglaw's name was deleted from the list of Vice-Presidents, and the names of Messrs. Buckhurst, Shaw, and Butchers added thereto. For the position of President, Mr. Champion proposed, Mr. De Gruchy seconded, the nomination of Mr. S. Fripp, junr.; Mr. Vale proposed Mr. Shaw. Mr. Shaw asked to be relieved of the position this year. Mr. Fripp was thereupon unanimously elected, and took the chair which Mr. Shaw vacated. He said that the election had taken him by surprise, but that he would do all he could in the interests of the Club. Other officers were elected as follows:—Hon. Treasurer: Mr. F. N. Pleasance; Hon. Au-

ditor: Mr. C. L. Butchers; Hon. Secretary: Mr. C. J. Gabriel; Committee: Messrs. Morgan, Mathias, Vale, Staker, Chapman, Humphrey, and Fisher.

General Business.—Resolved that the ballot for the election of 10 members of the Richmond Cricket Club take place on 1st Wednesday in October. Decided to arrange a match between Messrs. Duerdin and Sainsbury's team and the C.C.C. on A.N.A. Day. Resolved that the Annual Cinderella Dance be discontinued owing to the lack of support accorded to it by representative pharmacists, and that a Smoke Night be substituted therefor. It was suggested that possibly the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society would take up the dance. Mr. Butchers suggested the desirability of holding a drag or motor excursion. This would give the ladies a chance of participating. The suggestion was referred to the Committee.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the retiring President (Mr. Shaw), the officers of the Club, and the pharmaceutical press.

College Notes.

Short History of the College of Pharmacy.

(Contributed by T. E. Turner.)

The year 1887 saw a remarkable change. There were established two complete courses. This seems to us now all the more strange, when there have of late been opinions voiced that the whole year is all too short for the work to be done. But the change was in keeping with the spirit of the times: the land boom was on, everybody in Melbourne was in feverish haste to get rich, therefore it was incumbent on the young pharmacist to get registered (if not qualified) quickly. Eight students took advantage of the "get through quick" course in the first half of the year, nine in the second; some others divided the time doing materia medica one-half and chemistry the other; or, in some cases, doing one-half in 1887 and the other in 1888. Mr. Jackson acted as the teacher in all the subjects, and was a very Edison for work. One particular feature was his great respect for diagrammatic representation, and his assistant, Mr. Scott (who left the College at the middle of the year for more congenial employment), had much to do in this direction, and when I was appointed in June I still had to keep on at this. Almost the first task Mr. Jackson set me was to draw as many leaves as I could find. All divisions, lobes, etc., had to be correct as to number, position, etc., and had to be drawn to scale. One got weary of it at times, but I appreciate it now. Some of Mr. Scott's work was really fine. I well remember his representation of the sulphuric acid plant drawn from actual observation; it was splendidly done. Mr. Jackson's chemistry was very thorough. I remember spending some days, every spare minute we could get to prepare a manganese salt free from iron. Then the practical chemistry had to be so very methodical, solutions of reagents had to be used of definite strengths, correct amounts added in testing (none of the drop or bucketful methods). My first difficulties were making fair quantities of the gases. These had to be made and stored in gas globes for demonstrating in Mr. Jackson's lectures. My duties were so many that I frequently had to go back at night to get ready for the morning's lectures. Electricity was a strong point with Mr. Jackson—therefore there were batteries to be charged, electric machines to be got ready, electrolysis to be demonstrated. By-the-bye he was very fond of showing the Geissler tubes, which pleased the students very much. I had to assist at all these, so that the office of demonstrator was no light one. The materia medica specimens had to be handed round at each lecture, all sections shown and explained, microscopic appearance of starches, etc. Botanical specimens had to be obtained from the gardens, and dissections assisted with.

At the examination in June, Herbert Streeton won the prize in chemistry and practical chemistry; this was given by Mr. H. T. Tompsitt. Mr. Streeton also won Mr. T. Huntsman's prize for highest marks in materia medica. The examiner in botany refused to award a prize (which was offered by Mr. Brinsmead), as the required marks had not been obtained. At the December examination Frederick E. Oxer gained the prizes in all the subjects, and also the gold medal given by the Pharmaceutical Society for the best student of the year. (Mr. Oxer is now a clergyman of the Presbyterian Church. At the time he attended the College he was apprenticed to Mr. Jas. Lacey, of Bourke-street).

As there was no special provision for teaching of pharmacy at the College, Paul Ward, now Dr. Farmer, took up coaching, and was very successful with his first class. If my memory serves me correctly the four successful students at the Final in December were all his pupils; at any rate, I know who the first on the list was, and he was Mr. Norton Grimwade, and won the President's prize for the best pass in the Final for the year.

Those who still remain at shop work are Mr. J. R. V. Murphy, of Elizabeth-street; Mr. E. A. Walton; Mr. Alf. Heath, of Camberwell; Mr. F. G. Corinaldi, Camden-street, Balaclava; Mr. F. Cheshire, Elizabeth-street; Mr. H. Streeton, Croydon, N.S.W.; Mr. E. Trembath, Brunswick-street, Fitzroy; Mr. G. Mitchell, Footscray; Mr. N. G. Musther, Williamstown; Mr. F. Buckhurst, Mutual Store Pharmacy; Mr. E. Reeve, Malvern; Mr. J. H. Kilgour, Rutherglen, and Mr. A. Angel, W.A.

To the Editor *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

The First College Social.

Sir,—I have been very interested in the reminiscences of the early days of the College contributed by Mr. Turner to your columns. Possibly some of the older brigade may recollect the

first social reunion of College students, which was held at the Victoria Coffee Palace at the close of 1886 session. I happen to have preserved the report which appeared in the *Argus* the next day and the skit which some wag sent to the *Bulletin*, and which, greatly to his surprise, appeared in the following issue. These are as follow:—

"The students of the College of Pharmacy held a social meeting at the Coffee Palace, Collins-street, on Wednesday, to celebrate the close of the first session of lectures at the new college, and to present a token of esteem to their lecturer, Mr. John Kruse. Mr. Mummery took the chair, and read an apology for the absence of Mr. J. Kruse, which was received with regret. The chairman opened the programme with an address to the students, and a lengthy programme of songs and recitations was gone through, amongst the most noticeable numbers being recitations given by Mr. Hall, songs by Messrs. H. and A. Jacobs, violin solos and duets by Messrs. F. Kruse and Fay, piano solos by Mr. Skoglund, and Mr. Champion received an encore for his singing of 'The Midshipmite.' At 9 o'clock a supper was served, and various toasts were proposed. Mr. Jacobs, in proposing Mr. John Kruse's health, spoke in appreciative terms of the able manner in which he imparted instruction, and he informed those present that the souvenir would be presented on the following morning at the lecture-hall. Mr. Shelley, on behalf of the students, thanked the committee (Messrs. Jacobs, Hall, and Watson) for the entertainment they had provided. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the company parted."

The College of Pharmacy Students' Social.

—Who was the singer who said the pianist couldn't play?

—"Anthony's Oration" kept (Hall) of them spell-bound.

—The "Bill of Fare" was the best song of the evening.

—"Hamlet's Soliloquy" was too much for Levy.

—"The Midshipmite" secured an encore, the "Champion" of the evening.

—The indefatigable secretary and his brother supplied the comic element.

—Chuck read a recitation from a book; very enjoyable to himself.

—The pianist, who played several accompaniments, made the singers feel (Hill).

—Bravo, Jacobs, you will make a public speaker yet.

—Shelley shelled out his praise to the committee in the midst of the toasts.

Yours, etc.,

D. SHAW.

Collingwood, September 1, 1913.

College Re-Union.

The past and present students of the College have decided to hold a re-union on Tuesday evening, October 7. A committee has been formed, and the lecturers are co-operating to make the function a success. Messrs. E. C. McClelland and W. Kinder are the joint hon. secretaries, and tickets may be obtained from them. The price is 2s. 6d. Ladies are invited to be present, and there will be a good musical programme, on the termination of which refreshments will be served.

Correspondence.

THE EDITOR *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy*.

Information Wanted.

Sir,—Will some of your readers be so good as to inform me of the whereabouts of George Alfred Middleton? He was born in 1853, and was, I am informed, a chemist's assistant in Melbourne, somewhere in the years of the seventies.

I am preparing a history of the Church of England Grammar School, and Middleton was at the school in 1867-9. I am very anxious for the purposes of the book—the Liber Melburniensis—to ascertain what Middleton is doing, if alive, and if dead, the date of his death?—Yours, etc.,

R. W. E. WILMOT,
Hon. Sec. The Old Melburnians, and Hon. Editor of the Liber Melburniensis.

Personal.

MR. J. BARKER is relieving Mr. J. Woods, Korumburra.

MR. R. H. MCBURNEY has gone to Mr. T. H. Buzza, Footscray.

MR. A. L. CRAVEN is relieving Mr. P. H. Shepherd, Heyfield.

MR. E. W. GODDRICK is acting as *locum* for Mr. H. Henshall, Euroa.

MR. H. WILLIAMSON is at present with Mr. F. H. Kendall, Dunolly.

MR. D. A. SIMPSON, Loch, was in Melbourne on a visit on August 26.

MR. J. A. CRISP, of Hobart, paid a visit to Melbourne during the month.

MR. P. J. MCSWEENY has been appointed chemist at the Guano Works, Malden Island.

MR. C. E. KEAYS, Newmarket, has been on the sick list, and has gone to the Lakes Entrance to recuperate.

MR. H. W. MEALLIN, a recent arrival from Western Australia, has gone to Mr. R. O. Hughes, Rutherglen.

MR. W. J. FIMISTER has been appointed manager of Mr. W. H. Woodhouse's branch pharmacy at Middle Park.

MR. F. H. MCKNIGHT GRANT, manager of Mr. Damyon's branch pharmacy at Woodend, has been spending a week's holiday in Melbourne.

MR. W. J. FIMISTER, who is a registered pharmacist of Western Australia, and was in business at Southern Cross, has arrived in Melbourne, and intends settling there.

MR. S. S. STRUTT'S many friends will regret to hear that he has been in the doctor's hands during the past few weeks. He is now about again, and desires to thank those who have made kind inquiries during his illness.

Mr. Swirles, manager for Messrs. Wulfing and Co., left during the month on a trip to the Old Country to be married.

Mr. Hutchison, representing Horlick's Malted Milk, is at present in Melbourne in connection with the exhibit of the firm's goods at the Royal Agricultural Show.

Messrs. W. A. London and Pierce Butler (Bendigo), H. J. Mewkell (St. Arnaud), W. H. Cornell (Ballarat), and W. McCall Say (Benalla) were in Melbourne during the month.

Mr. J. H. Young, Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia, was in Melbourne towards the end of August on a visit to his father, who has been seriously ill.

Country Chemists in Town.—Messrs. V. S. Lalor, Yarram; W. Thursfield, Colac; A. E. Ponsford, Romsey; A. E. Bilton, Charlton; J. McSwiney, Wodonga; A. B. Rundle, Wangaratta; W. T. Browne, Dimboola.

Lieut. C. Morley, Quartermaster Army Medical Service, 3rd (Victoria) District, has been promoted to the rank of captain. Mr. Morley is a registered pharmaceutical chemist of Victoria, and his promotion is a well-deserved honour.

Mr. E. Norton Grimwade, president of the Chamber of Commerce, has been invited to represent the Chamber on the committee which is being formed in the city in connection with the proposed Samarang and Java Colonial Exhibition.

Mr. Geo. Phillips, who has been assisting Mr. H. H. Brown, Morwell, for the past seven years, has relinquished that position and is open to undertake *locum* work. Mr. Phillips is a registered pharmacist, and he holds very good credentials.

Mr. R. L. Burrows, a registered chemist of New Zealand, and a brother of Mr. S. A. Burrows, Melbourne, has come to Victoria, and has taken up several agency lines. Mr. Burrows was in business in Queensland, and is also registered in New South Wales.

Dr. Sidney Plowman, one of the retiring councillors for the shire of Frankston and Hastings, was opposed by Mr. C. Clements at the election held on August 28. Dr. Plowman was returned by a large majority, the voting being: Plowman, 308; Clements, 208.

Miss Ellie R. Wasley, a registered pharmacist of Victoria, and sister of Mr. J. E. R. Wasley, Melbourne, was married on August 21 at St. John's Church of England, Latrobe-street, to Mr. Gordon Thomas, of the State Savings Bank, Euroa. The honeymoon was spent at Peterborough.

Chemist's Divorce.—In reference to the divorce case reported in the last issue, Mr. J. R. Hodgson, the respondent, states that owing to the non-appearance of his solicitor, he did not have an opportunity of presenting a rebutting case, and that consequently the statements made during the hearing were of an *ex parte* nature.

Mr. F. Uren, of Hamilton, paid a visit to Melbourne to attend the Quarterly Communication of the United Grand Lodge of Freemasons, of which he is an officer. Mr. Uren, when in business some years ago in Fitzroy, was a member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, and he was much interested in the development of the College since those days.

Mr. Arthur Parker, who is at present on trial on a charge of shooting, is one of Footscray's oldest residents, his connection with the district dating back for a period of over fifty years, during which time he has carried on an extensive smelting business that is well known in every mining centre in the State. He is a registered pharmacist, and a brother of Mr. Thomas Parker, whose death is reported in this issue. On September 17th the jury returned a verdict of not guilty against Mr. Parker.

Pharmacists and Military Service.—Major J. A. Kruse has been appointed to the command of the 48th Battalion of Infantry (Kooyong Infantry). This battalion, for the present, covers a very wide area, embracing the districts from Auburn to Ringwood, and the whole of Gippsland as far as Leongatha, on the one line, and Bairnsdale on the other. In two years' time, as further quotas are drafted-in from the cadets, the 48th will subdivide, and be confined to its own area proper—Auburn to Ringwood. The head-quarters are at the new drill-hall just erected at Surrey Hills.

Trade Notes.

Mr. C. F. A. Bendelack is opening a new pharmacy at Glenhuntly-road, Elsternwick.

Mr. B. G. Lewis, Middle Brighton, has sold his business to Mr. J. W. C. Black, Collingwood.

Mr. Thomas Beecham, the popular impresario, has now been formally taken into the business of his father, Mr. Joseph Beecham, at St. Helens.

Mr. P. T. Gower, Williamstown, has disposed of his business to Mr. T. M. Howell, at one time in business at Newmarket, and who has recently returned from a trip to England.

Spirits for Assaying.—Unmatured Australian spirits may be used for assay purposes as well as for use by photographers and in scents and toilet requisites, subject to excise regulations.

Mr. R. S. Poynter, Coleraine, has sold his business to Mr. A. E. Taylor, who is shortly arriving from England. Mr. Poynter intends devoting himself entirely to his dental practice.

The Regulin Syndicate Ltd. have placed on the market Regulin Biscuits, which are specially recommended for invalids and young children of delicate constitution. Regulin Biscuits contain a larger percentage of Regulin than the tablets. They are flavoured with vanilla, and are free of any unpleasant taste.

The Age of Speed is the title of a 60-page illustrated booklet issued by Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co. It is full of suggestions as to the occurrence of everyday accidents, and the best method of treating them. A post-card to the firm, 481 Kent-street, will bring a copy by return.

The Melbourne Glass Bottle Works have adopted an improved process for making dispensing bottles, with the result that they can now offer a much better bottle than of late. It is stated that the colour and finish of the new bottles leave nothing to be desired, and, further, accuracy of contents can be relied upon.

Messrs. Potter and Birks have made some alterations in their local representatives. Mr. O. Smith, who has been in charge of the Melbourne office for some years, has taken Mr. Mitchell's place in the head office, and his assistant, Mr. P. M. Weynton, has been promoted, and is now looking after the Victorian interests of the firm. Mr. Weynton states that Messrs. Potter and Birks are desirous of seeing a P.A.T.A. started in Victoria in order that they may effectually ensure the maintenance of the protected prices on the various lines handled by them.

Biomalt is being placed on the market by Messrs. McMicking and Co., 381 Little Collins-street, Melbourne, representatives of the manufacturers, who have given instructions to place the preparation on the protected list. It is put up in tins weighing ¾lb. and 1½lb. The wholesale prices are 1s. and 1s. 9d., and the retail minimum prices 1s. 3d. and 2s. 3d. Supplies will be stopped where lower retail rates are being charged.

"Glaxo."—Pharmacists in Victoria and the other States are by this time well aware that the New Zealand line "Glaxo" has taken a firm hold on the market, and is making a big bid for popular favour. The chemist may at this stage be pardoned for asking, "What is 'Glaxo'?" To quote the words of the manufacturers:—"Glaxo" is milk—pure milk—fresh milk— rich milk—waterless milk—nothing but milk—and absolutely germ-free milk. "Glaxo," it has been proved, contains no starch or farinaceous matter, no preservatives, nor chemicals or colouring matter. The proteids contained therein are in the form of the flaky curd peculiar to human milk, and are, therefore, wholly digestible. "Glaxo" contains 26 per cent. of fat, which is exceptionally high. Robert Hutchinson, M.D., F.R.C.P., recognised as the leading British authority on dietetics, in his analysis of "Glaxo" and other foods within his well-known work, "Food, and the Principles of Dietetics," proves this, and his analysis may certainly be accepted as a triumph for "Glaxo." This preparation has also been proven efficacious in the treatment of certain diseases, such as typhoid fever, gastritis, gastric ulcer, chlorosis anæsthetic, sickness, and the vomiting of pregnancy. Such a preparation, well advertised, and supplemented by high-class advertising literature, and with leading medical authorities as its sponsors, certainly has strong claims for support. The accompanying photograph is a reproduction of the "Glaxo" exhibit at the current All-Australian exhibition in Melbourne, showing the energetic Victorian representative, Mr. Chas. E. Hall, of McKillop-street, Melbourne, in charge, and with him his staff, including the professional nurses employed to teach mothers the use of "Glaxo."

Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co. have issued a notice that, as many of their country friends will be in town during Show Week—viz., between the 22nd and 27th September—they have decided to have a Country Chemists' afternoon at their factory, Spencer-street, West Melbourne, with the view of giving an idea of what they are producing, and to demonstrate their methods of manufacture generally. They have fixed on Wednesday, September 24th, as the afternoon for inspection, and will be pleased to see any country chemists at 2.30 p.m. on that day.

Sigma Company.—The directors met on September 9. Mr. Church presided, and there were also present Messrs. Goode, Bartleman, Leete, and Pickford. Arrangements were made for the statutory meeting to be held on September 23. It was stated that the question of the "open policy" of selling the lines to other than chemists would be brought up for consideration, and that particulars would be given of several new lines, which were shortly to be brought forward.

"Bisurated Magnesia."—This proprietary mixture is claimed to be a general anti-acid. According to C. Mannich and G. Leemhuis (*Apoth. Zeit.*, 1913), its composition is approximately as follows:—Bismuth carbonate, 8; sodium bicarbonate, 40; magnesium carbonate, 52. The magnesium carbonate is probably the heavy form.

Dispensary Bottles.—The Williamstown U.F.S. Dispensary Committee at its last meeting received a strong letter from the manager of the Melbourne Glass Bottle Works, taking exception to the statement of one of the delegates that the bottles supplied to the dispensary were "seconds," and that the workmen received no payment for making them. This, it was stated, was not true. The company supplied the dispensary with bottles at 18s. 6d. a gross instead of 18s. 6d., the only difference being that the bottles were labelled with chemists' names who were dead or who had gone out of business. The company thought they were doing the dispensary a good turn in letting them have the bottles at so low a price.

Doctors' Visit to Felton, Grimwade and Co.'s Factory.—Arising out of the recent visit of pharmacists to Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co.'s factory and laboratory, members of the medical profession expressed a desire that a similar visit might be arranged, and, in response to a request from Dr. H. Douglas Stephens, Hon. Sec. of the Melbourne Medical Association, about 35 members of the Association paid a visit of inspection on August 21. For the proper explanation of the work being carried on the party was divided into three groups, guided by the writer, Mr. Brokenshaw, and Mr. Fred Grimwade. About

an hour and a half were spent in the factory, and then all parties assembled for afternoon tea. Dr. McArthur thanked the firm on behalf of the Association, and was seconded in his kind remarks by Dr. Bage. The acknowledgments were received by Messrs. Norton and Russell Grimwade. Amongst those present were Drs. McArthur, Bage, Douglas Stephens, Sutton, Weigall, Cuscaden, Black, Tucker, Dunbar-Hooper, Ramsay Webb, and Hewlett.

"Tabloid" Thyroid Gland.—In thyroid medication, the dose of thyroid gland has usually been regarded as 3 to 10 grains, and is so given in the majority of books on the subject. Recently, however, certain authorities have stated that as the result of extensive clinical trials they have found doses of gr. 1/10 to gr. 1 equally satisfactory. To provide for this new system of dosage two additional strengths—gr. 1/10 and gr. ¼—of "Tabloid" Thyroid Gland have been issued by Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome and Co. A large number of the most brilliant results recorded in the literature of thyroid therapy have been obtained with "Tabloid" Thyroid Gland, which has been proved to be an exceedingly active and reliable preparation. It is standardised by chemical means so as to ensure that the desiccated gland substance of which each product represents a definite amount, contains not less than 0.2 per cent. of iodine in organic combination. With the increased range of dosage afforded by the two new products, it will now be even more serviceable than before. "Tabloid" Thyroid Gland gr. 1/10 and "Tabloid" Thyroid Gland gr. ¼, are both issued in bottles of 100 products. The strengths in which "Tabloid" Thyroid Gland is issued, now include gr. 1/10; gr. ¼; gr. ½; gr. 1; gr. 1½; gr. 2½; gr. 5; 0.05 gramme; 0.1 gramme; and 0.3 gramme.

NOTICES.

P.D.L.

GENERAL MEETING.

A MEETING of the members of the above company will be held at the College of Pharmacy on TUESDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER, at 8.30 p.m.

Business.

1. Consideration of Amalgamated Insurance (Australia) Ltd.
2. To deal with circular issued by Federal Statistician re National Insurance.
3. Any other business of which due notice is given.

The first ANNUAL MEETING of the company will be held on WEDNESDAY, 12th NOVEMBER, 1913. Members will be notified in due course of the business to be transacted. The retiring directors are Messrs. Cornell, Gulliver, Peters, and Rankin.

C. L. BUTCHERS,
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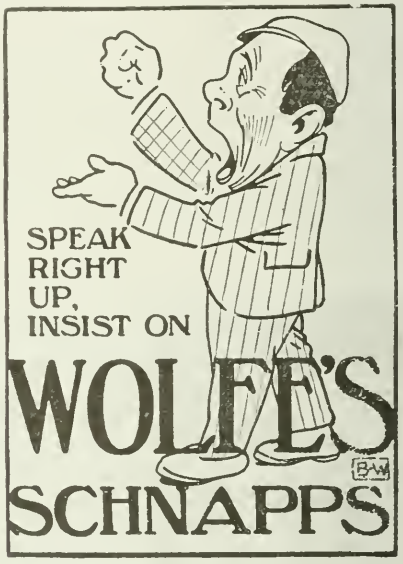

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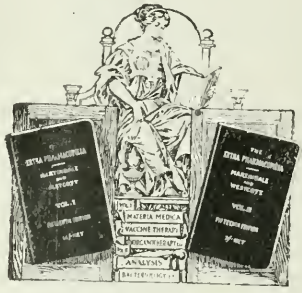

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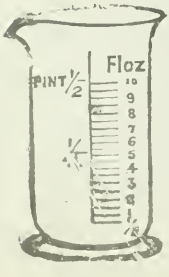

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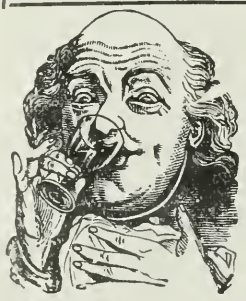

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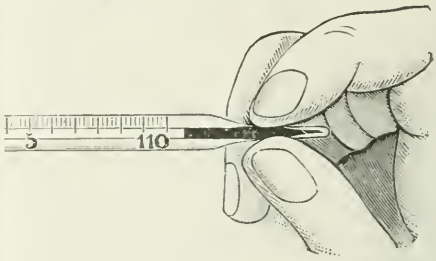

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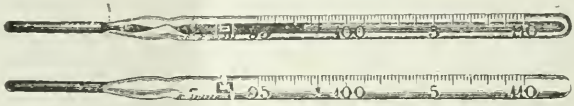

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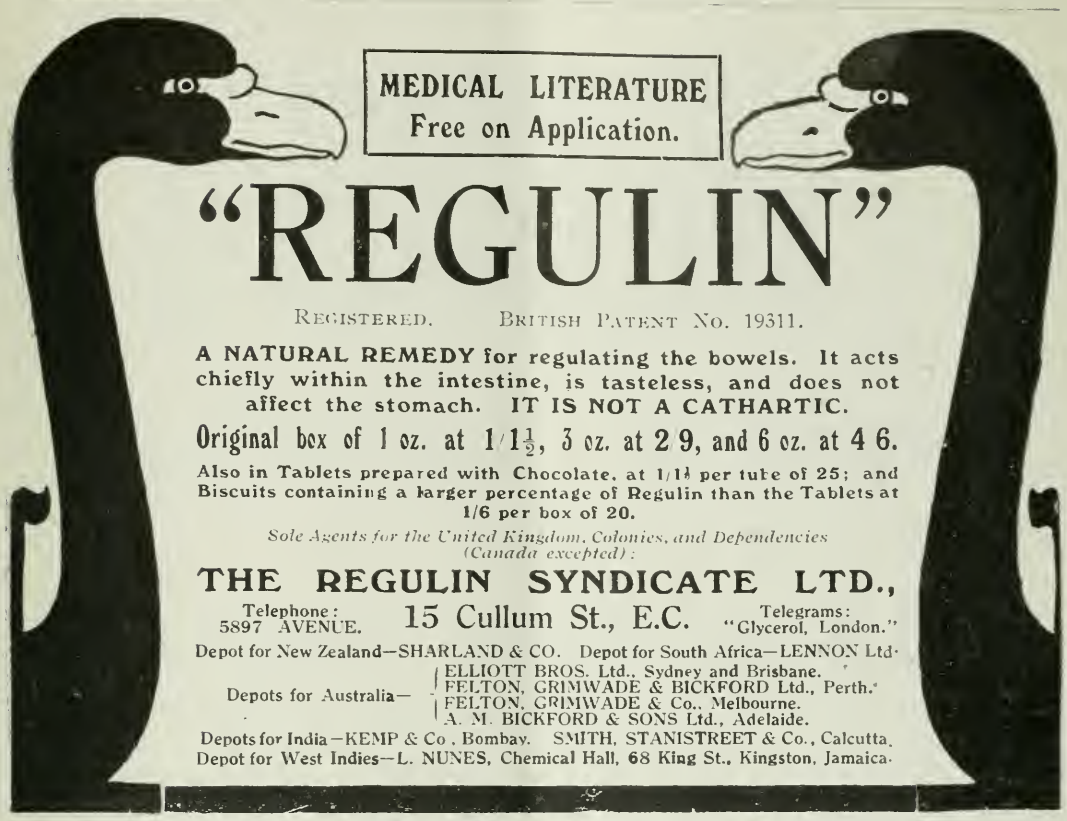

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MEDICAL ACT 1890, PART III.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

AS required by Section 88, Sub-section 4 of the "Medical Act 1890," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: MONDAY and TUESDAY, 1st and 2nd DEC., 1913.

The following are the compulsory subjects :—

LATIN.—Grammar; translation of simple sentences from English into Latin, translation into English of two paragraphs from Cæsar—De Bello Gallico, Book I., or two from Virgil—Æneid, Book I. *In each examination paper two passages from both of the authors will be given, but a candidate will be required to translate only two passages from Cæsar or two from Virgil.*

ENGLISH.—Grammar and composition. The University Text Book in English.

The Text Book for September and December, 1913, and March and June, 1914, will be—
A School Treasury of English Literature *(Murdoch)*, Section IV. The portions to be memorised are—Blow, Blow, Thou Winter Wind *(Shakespeare)*; L'Allegro *(Milton)*; Sonnet on his Blindness *(Milton)*; Ode to a Nightingale *(Keats)*; Australian Federation *(Gay)*.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules simple and compound vulgar and decimal fractions and simple and compound proportion. Thorough knowledge of the British and metrical system of weights and measures.

GEOMETRY.—The first book of Euclid.

ALGEBRA.—So far as simple equations.

The following text-books are recommended by the Examiner :—

LATIN.—For Grammar and Composition :—
Allen's Elementary Latin Grammar.
Allen's First Latin Exercise Book.
These two books contain everything necessary for a sound and satisfactory preparation.
ARITHMETIC. Any good school treatise.
ENGLISH.—Accidence and Analysis. Nesfield's Outline of English Grammar, omitting Part V.
ALGEBRA.—Any good school treatise. C. Smith's Elementary Algebra may be mentioned as a work covering all requirements.
EUCLID.—Any good school treatise on Euclid, Book I. The works by Hall and Steven, Smith and Bryant, Layng, or R. Deakin (Tutorial Series), may be mentioned as thoroughly satisfactory manuals.

The questions given at the examinations are published in the "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" for March, June, September and December in each year. 1/- a copy.

Candidates must give written notice of their intention to present themselves, together with the Fee of One Guinea, TEN DAYS prior to the date fixed for the examination.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

MATERIA MEDICA, BOTANY, CHEMISTRY, AND PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY FOR THE CERTIFICATE OF THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, MELBOURNE.

THE EXAMINATION of Students who have attended the Lectures in the above subjects is held half-yearly in June and December. The next examination will be held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY on 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th DEC., 1913. The Examination Fee of Two Guineas must be paid ten days before that date.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

IN accordance with the Provisions of Clause 40 of the Regulations of "The Medical Act 1900," Part III., an EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy on the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th DEC., 1913, at 10 o'clock a.m.

Candidates must give to the Registrar written notice of their intention to present themselves, together with their Indentures of Apprenticeship, the Certificates required by Section 88, Subdivision 4, of "The Medical Act 1890," Part III. and the Fee of Three Guineas, ten days prior to the day of examination.

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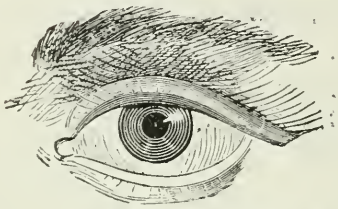

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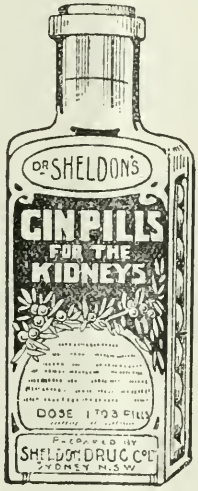

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